DADA SITALDASJI

★MAN OF THE MASSES★

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DADA SITALDASJI
MAN OF THE MASSES

HRI SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI FELICITATION

ON HIS

SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY

Written & Edited
by

Mohan Perumunda

2002
ri.S.K.Harchandaniji Felicitation Committee Ulhasnagar

MAN OF THE MASSES

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Sitaldas Harchandani Felicitation Committee on his 70th Birthday

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Acknowledgement

All efforts put together for a book would be in vain if the book is sans an acknowledgement The author wishes to thank all those who have selflessly contributed their valuable words, wisdom and time so as to ensure that this book completely reflects DADAJI.

This Book is Dedicated to my Beloved Elder Brother Late Shri. Gordhandas K. Harchandani & my best Friend Late Shri Chetan R. Sharma.

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EDITORIAL

Very seldom in life does one hear of, read about or come across inspiring personalities in contemporary times.Dada Sitaldasji is one such rare gem of mesmerizing luminosity. His great sympathy for the people experiencing acute sufferings and his missionary zeal to improve the conditions of the society around him has earned for him immense love and respect from one and all.

Born on 22nd December 1933 in a well-to-do family at Mado Village of Sindh Province, present day Pakistan, he along with his family and thousands of others were forced to leave the lands of their ancestors in 1948 due to the partition of the country and the large-scale riots which followed. Arriving at Ulhasnagar at the age of 15, Dadaji's subsequent life is a tale of selfless service to the people of Ulhasnagar Township and humanity at large.

Through all of his good works, he enriched the lives of the poor and the downtrodden, the helpless and the oppressed, the sick and the disabled, people as young as mere children and those who are too old to be of productive use to society. In every aspect of his scintillating life, be it in the Political field, Educational field, Social field or in the field of Banking, Dadaji proved to be an unfailing source of wisdom, a leader of the highest order, a person who considered service to man as his mission on earth , a person of unstinting dedication to service of the people, a wonderful guide to his followers and to people of lesser stature, a visionary par excellence and a loving, benevolent and genuinely wonderful human being.

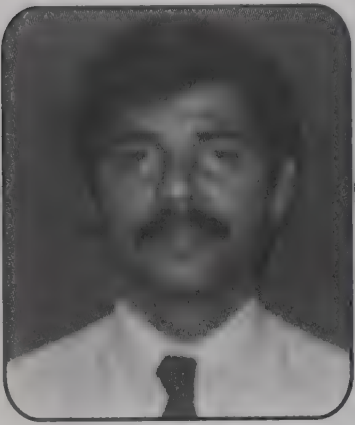
The following pages of this book tell the story of a man who came to Ulhasnagar with next to nothing, but gave it his all, the architect of modern Ulhasnagar Township, one who inspired many around him and who steadfastly worked for the upliftment of the people for more than five decades or half a century. Dadaji is a man with the Midas Touch, successful in all his ventures, and has commanded the indisputable respect and affection of the people of Ulhasnagar. Many are those who have benefited from his abundant love of humanity. Many followers who came to him have been inspired by his compassionate personality and good work and have extended their hands to share and support his mission of service to society.

When I was approached with the great task of bringing to life in print five decades of his glorious service to mankind, I was assailed with self-doubt and uncertainty whether I had the capability to do justice to his life's work within a few pages of writing. Dadaji's friends and followers have been very encouraging and I am greatly indebted to all of them. It is mainly due to this support and backing I received from them that this interpretation of Dada Sitaldasji's life and works has become a reality.

During the long days and weeks while I was writing this book, I have called upon Dadaji many a time in order to cross-check with him some small detail, or to set forth a few questions to him in order to continue my work with the book, Dadaji has always responded with a smile despite his hectic and busy schedules. Dadaji's magnetic personae and charisma has been one of the driving forces behind this book. I thank Dadaji for bearing with me and all my queries with enormous patience.

On his 70th birthday, may the Almighty grant him a long life of happiness, good health, peace and prosperity and may his life inspire many more people to follow his footsteps and do good work for society in the years to come.

MOHAN PERUMUNDA



MOHAN PERUMUNDA

Mr. Mohan Perumunda is a qualified Mercantile Marine Engineer with a total experience of almost 14 years in the Shipping Industry. He began his career as a Marine Engineering apprentice with Mazagon Docks Ltd., Bombay in November 1986. His training was sponsored by the Union Government of India and lasted for 4 years and 3 months.

Upon completion of training he joined a Multinational Company, V.SHIPS INC – Montecarlo as a 6th Engineer in 1991. He received MOT CLASS II – Part A Certificate from Ministry of Transport, India in 1992. In 1993 he was sponsored by V.Ships to attend a course at Southampton, U.K. and received DOT CLASS IV Certificate, U.K. V. Ships awarded him a double promotion to the post of 4th Engineer in the year 1993. He was promoted to the post of 3rd Engineer in the year 1995. In the year 1998, he joined TANKER PACIFIC SHIPMANAGEMENT LTD., Singapore as a 2nd Assistant Engineer.

In the year 2000, he conceived and helped design a portal for the Shipping Industry called www.worldofships.com which was launched on 18th May 2000.

In December 2000, he helped to start a company for graphics, web-designing, and media solutions called as "EWEAVER ENTERPRISES". He serves as an ADVISOR for the company.

In February of the year 2001 he conceived and designed a portal for Indian Seafaring community called www.sailorbiz.com which was launched on 6th March 2001. This has become one of the most popular websites for the Indian sailors today. It has been officially recognized by the DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING, Government of India as a website for disbursing official orders by Mercantile Marine Dept. and D.G. Shipping, their articles, shipping notices and marine notices. He is ADVISOR for the portal.

He provided the concept for a Maritime fortnightly magazine called "Marine World" which was launched on 16th Sept. 2001 by the Director General, Shipping. He served as Assistant Editor and provided Management and Operational Support for "The Marine World". He has written various articles for the magazine.

INTRODUCTION / PREFACE / FOREWORD

The ancient Indian scriptures tell the seekers that there are four ways or paths by which one can raise oneself from the shackles of being a normal human being to a higher or Superhuman level and KARMA-YOGA is one of them.

SERVICE TO HUMANITY IS THE SAME AS SERVICE TO GOD is a well known and much often quoted saying. GOD WORKS IN MANY WAYS IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT HIS PLANS FOR HUMANITY ON EARTH is another well-known saying.

If one serves humanity selflessly and is able to reduce their misery, if one is able to wipe away a single tear from the cheek of another human being and bring a smile to the face of a world-weary fellow human being, one acts like water which quenches the thirst of a traveller in a hot desert.

Moses, the paragon of all prophets led the weary ones from the wilderness of sorrow to the Promised Land, "flowing with milk and honey"

"Just as the Lord employs love, not His miraculous powers, to discipline man, so didst thou disdain the ways of force and place thy faith in the silent power of righteousness. . . . ." wrote Sri Sri Paramahansa Yogananda about Mahatma Gandhi in "WHISPERS FROM ETERNITY"

THIS BOOK

This book deals with one such human being - Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI, who selflessly strove to remove the tears, who steadfastly worked to bring smiles onto world-weary fellow men and helped an entire region grow to greater heights. He put the misery of his neighbour ahead of his own happiness in his list of priorities to work for and strove to restore their lost happiness.

THE READER OF THIS BOOK

You, the reader of this book, maybe from various levels of the social strata or a student, but one who would like to help society and humanity in your own way, big or small.

WHAT WOULD YOU GAIN BY THIS BOOK

You, the reader of this book will derive inspiration from reading about the life, struggles and achievements of Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI. This inspiration will benefit humanity in more ways than we can foresee today.

ABOUT US

It would be our endeavor to portray the life of Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI in an unbiased manner, bringing to light his stellar qualities, his struggles, his pain, his successes, his achievements and accomplishments, the difference his life has made to countless others surrounding him and his unmatched social service.

In our own ways, dear Reader, small or big, if the essence of the life, work, and deep belief to help humanity of Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI is reflected in our own lives, then the objective of this book will be achieved.

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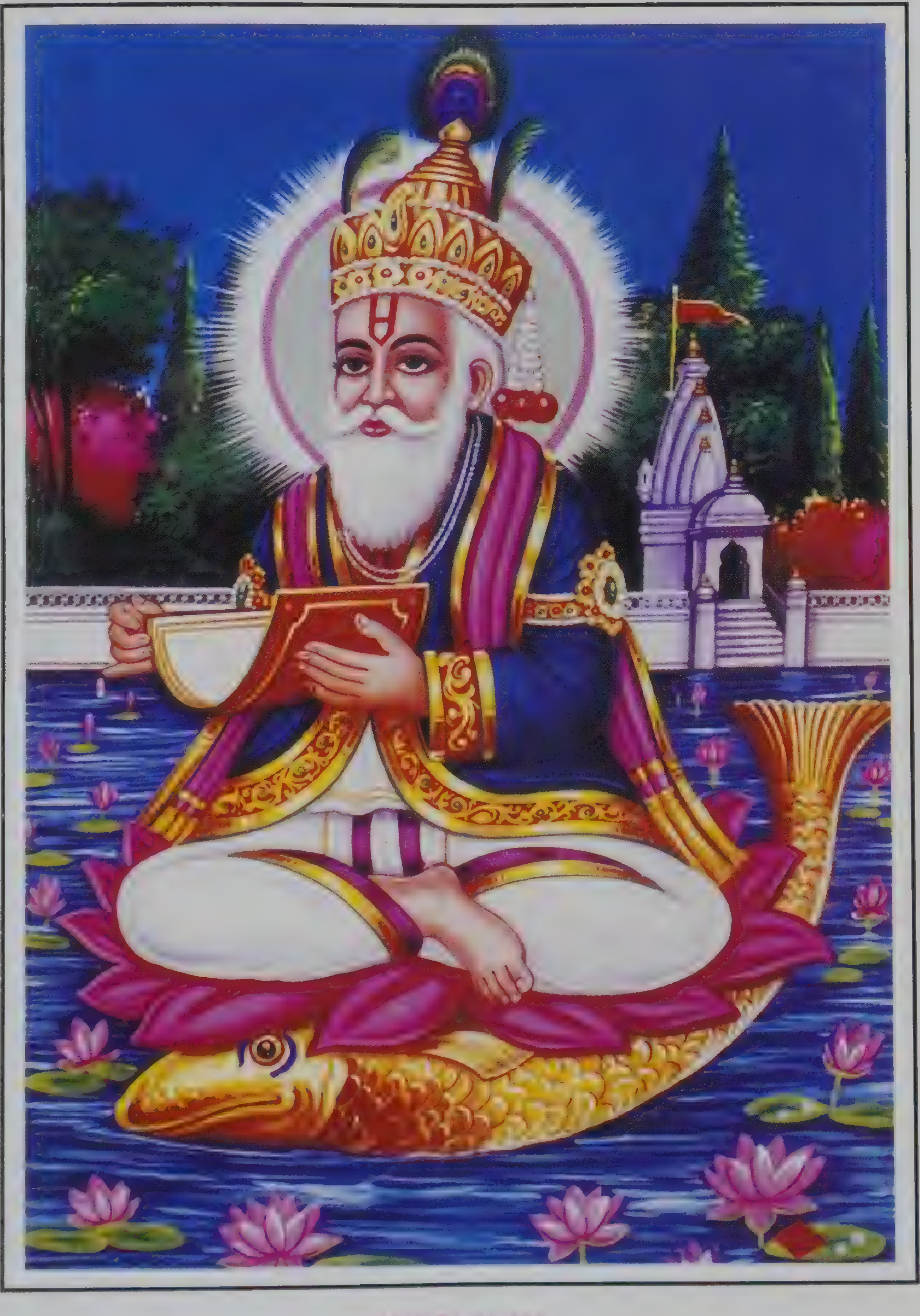
A GOOD BEGINNING



JHULELALAN

elal, also known as Uderolal, Darya shah, is the reigning deity of the Sindhis who
he worshippers of water bodies, of Lord Varuna, the Vedic GOD of rain and water.
elal is an *avatar* of Varuna.

e upon a time the entire Sindhi community was threatened with near extinction
g to an attack by foreign hordes. It was Jhulelal who came forward to rescue the
ren of Sindhu for which he came to be regarded as an *avatar*. We pray for the
sings of Jhulelal on all of us.

A GOOD BEGINNING

Anyone going through history books can easily become ware that most people who achieve greatness in their lives are nostly born during times of or just before times of great stress nd upheavals.

The year 1933 was one such year, and times of great tress and turmoil were just around the corner. The Undivided ation India was fighting for freedom against the British and reat decisions which would affect the lives of that generation nd all generations to come were being made on a regular basis. eaders of great political stature walked the political ramp and orridors of power.

On the world stage Adolf Hitler was the Chancellor of ermany and was to change the map of Europe during the ollowing years. The world had just come out of The Great conomic Depression of the late 1920's and there was great xpectation, apprehension and tension in the air.

Into such a world, on the 22nd of December, 1933 in a mall village called MADO, in DADU district of Sindh rovince of the country which is presently known as akistan, Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI was born.

He was born into a wealthy family which had flourishing usinesses at MADO village, Kotia, Hyderabad and Karachi. So he adage "Born with a silver spoon in his mouth" fits him erfectly. As a child, Shri SITALDAS HARCHANDANIJI was quiet, shy and introvert boy.

He had 2 uncles and aunts and 3 brothers who were very lose to him. The person who impressed him most was his father and in later years, he followed his footsteps.

His father and relatives were inclined towards the RSS and right from his childhood days, Shri Sitaldasji was impressed with its ideology and used to take part in their activities, albeit in small measures.

His childhood friend Late Shri Chetan Revachand Sharma was a school mate of his and both of them were close to each other throughout the long years of life.

14th of August 1947 saw the birth of a new nation which was named Pakistan. A subcontinent of people who shared similar cultural values, similar ways of social conduct, similar language of communication, a long shared history spanning centuries were not given much choice when the great dividing line stretched roughly, separating / dividing them politically and religiously into two countries.

15th August 1947 saw the birth of Independent India. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, a young boy of 14 years old would not have been in a position to understand the great implications of these two moments in History.

The subsequent days, weeks and months saw a new kind of feeling born amongst the people of the two newly independent countries – HATRED. Hatred for friend against friend, relatives against relatives, business houses and people against their equals, brother against brother, was an emotion which was carefully cultivated by people with vested interest on both sides of the border. The flames of suspicion, divide, hatred was fanned by them and the innocent people who had been oppressed by the British for more than 250 years found an outlet to release their pent up emotions.

Riots ensued on both sides of the border, Hindu against Muslim, Muslim against Hindu, and the meek, innocent people were the victims. Hundreds of thousands of people crossed the border, to either sides, fleeing the terror and madness of impassioned, politically agitated mobs, seeking peace and a quiet life. Leaving behind all their lands, flocks, possessions, businesses, at times some of them even a few of their loved ones who did not want to leave their place of birth, hordes of people became refugees in a span of just a few months. Generations upon generations of hard-earned wealth and reputation was cast aside as these people gathered a few possessions, their lives and memories of another day (an era filled with laughter, cheer, prosperity and joy), and crossed the border from both sides, with heavy hearts and weary feet, but iron will and determination to lead their lives with dignity.

Shri Sitaldasji recalled an incident from his childhood, which happened during the time of the riots. While he was passing through the city of Dadoo with his elder brother Gordhandas Harchandani, they were threatened by a Muslim boy who had just migrated from India. He claimed that he would kill them all as soon as he received orders from Mohammed Jinnah. The times were so grim that even young minds came under the sway of fanatical preaching. The political leaders of that times were able to influence the minds of many children and were able to breed a sense of communal hatred and contempt against the people from other societies. Luckily for Sitaldasji and his brother, the boy's threats proved to be mere words in the long run as a decision was taken by his family to migrate across the border.

Shri Sitaldasji recalled another incidence which left a deep impression in his young mind. On January 6th 1947, riots had taken place in Karachi and many Hindus were murdered. His father had gone to Karachi city during the time of this incidence and his entire family was praying for his safety. When he did not return home at dusk, the family broke down, thinking that he too might have fallen an innocent victim of the riots and might have been killed. By the grace of God, Shri Sitaldasji's father was given shelter by a Muslim family and found protection in their house. When the furore died down and his father returned home, the entire family thanked the merciful Lord for having answered their prayers. This help by a Muslim family during a time of Communal frenzy and riots left a deep impression on Shri Sitaldasji and in later years, he would turn out to be a leader who stood for people first, irrespective of the community to which they belonged.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani's family was one among the thousands of family who crossed the border into India in 1948. They were forced to leave Sindh Province and arrived in India by a steamer provided by the Government of India. It was a rough sailing from Karachi to Bombay, with heavy hearts, minds of steel, they left the land of their birth with just the clothes on their bodies, ornaments and a little cash which they had hastily gathered together. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was 14 and a half years old at that time, a young heart, not old enough to understand all the changes taking place in the fortunes of his family, and at the same time not too young to forget the hardships which they all endured during the crossing of the border and subsequently, the ensuing months and years.

Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani's family arrived at Bombay Port, Ballard Pier and then were shifted by train to the Satara Military Camp in Maharashtra for 3 months. They were later on moved to the then Kalyan Camp. Their train was parked at James Siding, now known as Vithalwadi Station. They were allotted rooms occupied by the military to stay and were provided free rations by the government of India. His childhood friend and school mate Late Shri Chetan Revachand Sharma had arrived a few months earlier and had settled in Camp No.5. When he became aware that Sitaldasji had come and settled at Camp No.3, he too shifted from Camp No.5 to Camp No.3 .

When Sitaldasji first set foot on Ulhasnagar soil, it was a Military Camp which did not have proper roads or street lights. It was a far-removed suburb of the bustling commercial capital of India, Mumbai (or Bombay as it was known then). Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was 15 years old when he first set foot on Ulhasnagar soil.

For all the people who had lived around him at that time, he might have appeared as a normal young boy of his age. No one might have guessed that he would grow to such heights that he would one day be able to change the face of Ulhasnagar township and give it the modern bustling, enterprising, industrious and prosperous face it has today.

He attended the SINDH NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, where he completed his high school education. He was a quiet, shy and introvert boy and was an average student in academics. All the gold medals, distinctions, high marks and ranks of academics were meant for others. For Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani, a much greater glory awaited. Even though he was an average student, he did not take learning lightly and knew the value of Higher Education.

On passing out from SINDH NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, he enrolled in NATIONAL COLLEGE at Bandra, Mumbai for his Graduation Course. When he passed his 1st year in College, Sitaldasji began to feel the burden of the tough routine of studying and working simultaneously. He left college and passed his Intermediate Examination from AJMER BOARD as an External Student. Subsequently he graduated from POONA UNIVERSITY..

"EARN WHILE YOU LEARN" seems to be a western concept or a modern one. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani practised it 50 years ago. He joined the Government Milk Colony Scheme at Ballard Pier and worked hard with sincerity.

His day started early, while it was still dark for the rest of the country, at 4.30 AM. He had to walk down to Vithalwadi Railway station, a journey of approximately an hour, to catch a train at 5:45 AM. He traveled to Bandra by train to attend college. Compelled to attend his office at Ballard Pier at 10:30 Am, he was able to attend 3 or 4 periods a day. The last two lectures of the college had to be usually sacrificed due to his office work.

His Office work kept him busy until 6 PM at night after which he would return home to Ulhasnagar. This tough daily schedule of studying and working for 16 to 18 hours a day would have normally drained a normal man of all his energy. But Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, being a man of extraordinary convictions, energy levels and steadfastness, was able to bear it all with a smile.

He continued working for the Government Milk Colony Scheme at Ballard Pier after his graduation till the year 1966.

Having experienced great upheavals in his early life, Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani was moved by the plight of his people who had come from far away lands like his own family. A deep sense of Social Service and a need to do something good for the people was born in his tender heart. He gathered a few like minded youth like him who had a strong sense of social commitment and they decided to bring back the smiles on the faces of their people in their own small way.

Shri Rattan Keswani, Shri Rewo Budhwani, Shri Pritam Makhija, Late Shri Chetan Sharma, Late Shri. Shyam Ailani, Late Shri Ram Ailani, Late Shri Gordhan Sukhramani and Late Shri Chandan Rupani joined Sitaldasji in his efforts to do good for the people around them.

What started as a small idea, a long time ago, when Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was a young man of 18 years old, has now grown into a large, strong, dynamic and greatly beneficial institution.

NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST or NCT as it was named was formed to help poor and needy people of Ulhasnagar whom Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani saw in large numbers. His heart went out to them, and being determined, he and his like–minded associates went about helping them.

All over the world, it is an observed fact that Adolescence (the period normally between 17 to 21/22 years) is normally associated with irrational and rebellious nature. It is a time when a person is slowly beginning to understand his / her individuality and strives to establish it within his / her social presence (home, among relatives & friends, at school / college, out in the streets during normal life etc.) It is a time to make new friends, to dream about the future, to think about making the most of little joys which life has to offer ……….

For any youth, just thinking of helping out his / her fellowmen who are troubled is a noble and rare virtue indeed. Very few amongst the youth, over the ages would utilize the period of adolescence constructively or for the good of the others. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his like-minded friends were like rare precious gems which Ulhasnagar was very fortunate to have.

Just having the noble thought of helping the poor and needy is not enough. The good thoughts have to be followed up by actions. In this material world, all worldly actions require money to see them through. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his friends knew this age-old truth and set their minds on collecting funds for this good cause. To raise funds they organized various cultural programs. "GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES" is a well-known saying.

However, "GOD HELPS MORE EASILY THOSE WHO TRY TO HELP OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES" was something which Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his associates found out when they acted upon their noble thoughts via the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST. Money came pouring in.

With the money, which started as a trickle, and grew to a flood as time went by, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his friends, through the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST, were able to buy study books. They distributed these books free of cost to poor and needy children who had the inclination to study further and improve their lot but were not in a financial position to afford it. These works impressed the elders of the community. Realizing that Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his associates were genuinely making a difference by their good actions, money began to pour in for more such good work.

In the beginning, about 250 students benefited from this effort. As time went by, the collections from the people grew, with additional resources, the number of students who were benefiting from this effort grew to 500. The books were initially distributed to students from the 1st Standard to the 5th Standard, and later on as the funds increased, this system was expanded to include students upto the 10th Standard.

Knowledge is the greatest gift which any human being can give to another. Throughout history one can read about the greatness of knowledge. Teachers are held in the highest esteem and educational institutions are treated like temples or places of worship. Knowledge is treated as a wealth ……..one normally uses words such as "A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE…"

Libraries are also similarly looked upon with respect . Great cities grew and flourished, or so, our history books tell us ….take the example of the University of Nalanda which was famous because of its library. Great scholars sat in its huge halls and read about works by others as great as or even greater than themselves, deriving inspiration from them. This inspiration, in turn resulted in the creation of more great works of knowledge. Libraries have a CASCADING EFFECT as far as Knowledge dissemination is concerned. Knowledge gained from libraries might be used to improve ones own life, to help another's life or it would inspire minds to generate greater and nobler thoughts.

If everyone is forced to read books and newspapers only after one buys them, very few people would be in a position to afford to do so. The cost of the books and the other reading material would be a prohibitive barrier which very few would be able to surmount. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, even though leading a very hectic life, had a dream of his township having a Library which would help create great minds and thinkers. He guided the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST ably and turned his vision of creating a library for the good of the people in Ulhasnagar into a reality. This library was open for everyone, irrespective of caste, creed or social status. It offered the people access to various kinds of books and newspapers. Thus Ulhasnagar township got a library of its own!

Named after Poet Parsram Zia, a large number of newspapers and periodicals were made available in the reading room. A few Sindhi novels were also provided in the beginning and later on a few Hindi and English Literature books were also added. Thousands of people benefited from this noble effort of Shri Sitaldasji and his friends.

Any child / youth who has had experiences of living through a war or in a war-torn country, or through riots, or through times of physical violence or great mental anguish, relives those days of terror or anxiety many times through his/her life. Their days of innocence seems to have vanished like alphabets written on a stream or a slate / blackboard wiped clean with a duster. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani underwent such times in his late childhood or early youth.

But he was determined that children like him, from other families, who had fled their homes and hearth in search of a normal life should not be affected in a similar way.

What is childhood, if one cannot fill it with smiles, playing and cries of ecstatic joy ?? It is only the memories of a joyous and wonder-filled childhood which takes care of a person and helps him along during moments of dire straits and seemingly insurmountable sorrow which the world might throw upon him / her like a net that tries to capture a courageous lion. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of this very early in life. A determination set in his kind and noble heart, that he should try and give as many small children as he can, beautiful, fun-filled memories of a happy childhood, if not more.......

A dream for a children's park which would be available for all children, wherein they could play safely with one another, away from the crowded streets, away from their strife and suffering filled homes, a place which would make their childhood a more happy one, was born in his heart.

In a similar way, elderly people, those who have retired themselves from the humdrum of day-to-day living, and engage themselves to a quiet way of life, need to sit in a quiet place, surrounded by plants and trees, where they can reminiscence of the days gone by. A place where they can meet their lifelong friends and catch up on one-another's life and views about society or a place to generally relax their burden which they have carried through their long lives.

Accordingly, the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST, under the able guidance of Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani went about collecting funds for the same. Money was donated generously by weary-hearted people, seeing that the young and dynamic Shri Sitaldas Harchandani would be able to work wonders for their children if the garden became a reality. Thus the garden which gave to countless children of Ulhasnagar the greatest possession a human-being can ever have – his / her happy memories and the many senior citizens a quiet and peaceful place to relax in the early mornings and evenings, became a reality.

India and Indians give a lot of respect to the fairer sex and place them on pedestals. That is what one is given to understand when one reads the various scriptures or literary works of Ancient India. Tales of women who have excelled in Literature, Poetry, Arts and devotional life during the times of great rulers of the various kingdom of Ancient India are many. The Hindu Religion has a pantheon of Goddesses who are worshipped to this day – special festivals are celebrated for goddesses too. History text books are punctuated with tales of women in political life too, such as queens and warriors who lead great armies to war. In fairly recent times too, the Founding figure of Indian National Congress which fought for and gave the country its freedom eventually was also a lady. During the freedom struggle too, many women struggled, attained respect and recognition for the good work they carried out during their lives.

But throughout history, the Indian woman found it very difficult to go through life unless accompanied by a husband. As long as she was married, and as long as her husband was alive, she would get all the recognition she rightfully desired / deserved. But once her husband died, or she was separated, life for the single woman became very difficult. To some extent, it is still true in the rural areas of Present day Modern India too, though times are changing in the cities.

In the 1950's and 60's, the country India which we see today was a very different one. It was because of determined people like Shri Sitaldas Harchandani that a lot of social changes have taken place and old customs / view points have changed to uphold the rights of the Indian woman through work inspired by the simple goodness of the Human heart and spirit.

A normal Indian woman's place was by the hearth and in her home / kitchen. Divorcees were rare in those days and normally a divorced lady would be treated as a social disgrace. Widows weren't allowed to attend religious functions of the family or social gatherings. Hence if the in-laws or the family of a widowed woman, or the family of a divorced woman forced her to live by herself, it was almost impossible for her to continue her life. A working widow or a divorcee was almost unheard of in those days.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani's heart cried at the plight of such widows and divorcees (widows might have been many since partition and all the riots would have taken its toll). He and his friends of the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST pondered deeply over this problem. Finally an idea of starting classes to teach the widows and divorcees some skill through the use of which they could sustain themselves, came to Shri Sitaldas Harchandani. Thus the concept of NARI SHALAS came into existence. NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST, set about raising funds for this good cause, and the people came forward to donate generously, after the initial setbacks from a few suspicious and pessimistic groups.

These NARI SHALAS were to be classes whereby widows, divorcees and poor women would be able to learn skills like sewing and painting. With the help of these skills they would be in a position to work and sustain themselves, and at many a time, support their families, and live the rest of their lives without the support of others and with dignity and happiness. Thus the first of NARI SHALAS for the poor, the downtrodden widows and divorcees became a reality.

Many girls who were poor and economically backward were taught in these NARI SHALAS and benefited from it.

He tried to help each and every one of the people in his own way, either personally or through his friends, associates or contact. His name, fame and words about his good deeds and about the work by his trust (NCT) began to spread among the people and day-by-day, the number of people coming to him increased. An office for the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST or the NCT was opened, and Shri Sitaldas Harchandani would be present there in his spare time. A lot of people would visit him every day and tell him about their problems. But very few, if any, would turn back disappointed from his office .

Good work done by the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST are many and as the years rolled by, his credibility and impeccable credentials in the eyes of the people grew. His stature grew from strength to strength.

Today the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST runs two normal schools, one a Sindhi Medium School and another an English Medium school. It also runs a special school for the PHYSICALLY DISABLED called K.C. School for Deaf and Dumb students.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani founded another trust called SAI

BABA TRUST which runs a special school for the MENTALLY DISABLED or mentally ill students.

Until the year 1966, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani worked for the Government Milk Colony Scheme at Ballard Pier. Being a government job and the constraints it involved, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was not very satisfied with it since it did not give much scope for his social activities. The government had strict restrictions on its employees and they were not allowed to take part in social or political activities. But Shri Sitaldas Harchandani's heart being full of thoughts of helping his fellowmen, found it difficult to give justice to his job as well as the longings of his heart which lay in the realm of social justice for all.

People from the Jan Sangh Party approached his elder brother and requested him that he should spare Shri Sitaldasji for party work. His brother gladly accepted their request saying that since there were 4 males in the family, the entire family would be proud to spare one of them for the development of the city and for the welfare of the society.

Hence after much thought and deliberation, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani decided to quit his business in 1977, in order to help satisfy the much larger needs of humanity. Many a man would have hesitated to do so, but Shri Sitaldas Harchandani put Humanity before self. He had the blessings of his family and friends and the support of his loved ones when he embarked upon this noble journey.

Like I had mentioned earlier, there are very few men who have noble thoughts of helping his neighbour, or humanity at large. Fewer still are those who put such thoughts into action.

Out of all those who try to do so, it is just a handful who succeed. Out of the handful who succeed, very few have the steadfastness, tenacity of purpose, or determination and patience to continue with what they had started, for a long time. Out of the few who sustain their beliefs and actions, the number of people who would let go of the support of a steady job which gives the bread and butter for ones family in order to help the people of the world can be counted on one's fingers. Out of these very rare people, only one or two of them might be able to succeed in their new ventures.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was one who did all of the above and who not only succeeded in his new ventures after he left his Government job, but one who grew from strength to greater strength.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani's NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST was carrying out magnificent work in the area of social service through all these years. But for every good deed which he or the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST needed to carry out, funds had to be collected from good-hearted people. Permissions whereever necessary had to be obtained from the political powers that were at that time. Permissions on decisions for good deeds took a long time to obtain. So Shri Sitaldas Harchandani decided to join politics in an active way, in order to help the poor and downtrodden.

The policies and aspirations of the political party THE JAN SANGH attracted him, and he felt that his own feelings were reflected in the party manifesto. Accordingly he joined it and swiftly rose in position and esteem within the party ranks. He was appointed the TREASURER of the party in 1966. He held the post of Treasurer from 1966 to 1969.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani worked hard, sincerely and diligently for the party and the people with his calm and unassuming manner. Many people who were associated with him during those days were enamoured by his steady head for working out solutions for seemingly tough problems. He was appointed GENERAL SECRETARY of the Jan Sangh Party in 1970.

As General Secretary of the Jan Sangh between 1969 to 1972, many were the insights which Shri Sitaldas Harchandani gave to problems and the decisions which he took for the same were highly appreciated by all.

His impeccable reputation, cool head, unassuming manner, sincerity, diligence and great leadership qualities were recognized by one and all as he went about his work quietly but with a studied and calm efficiency .

In the year 1972, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was appointed PRESIDENT of the JAN SANGH party.

For five years , between 1972 to 1977, the Jan Sangh Party grew in strength under the able stewardship of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani as President of the Party.

Then in 1975, dark clouds loomed over the political landscape when the entire nation was brought under Emergency Rule by the then ruling political party, the Congress, under Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Freedom of Speech and expression was curtailed and all opposition parties were brought under stress. Many great leaders from various opposition parties were imprisoned under MISA. A dark period in Free India's otherwise blemishless political history had begun.

During the days of the Emergency, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani took part in various protest marches etc. He was arrested for defying the Indian Defense Rules and imprisoned for 9 days at the Thane Jail. His experience of prison life did not deter Shri Sitaldas Harchandani from standing up for what was Just and Right. The hardship he endured during those 9 days at the Thane Jail, only made his determination to help people attain Justice and to work for good causes stronger than before. His resolve strengthened. He took part in a number of agitations and Protest Marches. He was jailed again and again (3 or 4 times more) for standing up for Human Rights.

Various other political leaders and Stalwarts like Shri Jai Prakash Narayanji, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, Shri L.K. Advanji were imprisoned during this time. Many leaders and workers had gone underground. Literature and encouraging words which strengthened the resolve of those who were being jailed for upholding righteous values were being supplied to the prisoners by an underground network of operatives. These were the lifelines through which the resistance to the Emergency rule existed.

In 1977, elections were held again and many Congressmen lost the election. Even Late Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the ex-Prime Minister of the nation was defeated.

Throughout the world, it is an oft-acknowledged fact that every land, country, region, city, or town has an unforgettable period of growth, happiness and prosperity. Very often, this period is known as the GOLDEN AGE of that particular region. It is also a well established fact that such GOLDEN AGES are so named because such times are as rare and as precious as Gold. Such a GOLDEN AGE can only be brought about by an able and a stable leadership. Such leadership qualities are also rare in most leaders. Only leaders who understood the people whom they led would be able to turn the tables of misfortunes into opportunities and building upon those, bring about a great revolution and a golden period for their people.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani is one such leader with rare leadership qualities of a great leader of the people. The clouds of Emergency rule lifted and the people of Ulhasnagar recognized the qualities of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani who had led them through the troubled times , valiantly. It is only in times of trouble that one gets to know who their actual friends and enemies are. They had found in him a Leader they could trust.

"SOME ARE BORN GREAT, SOME ACQUIRE GREATNESS, SOME HAVE GREATNESS THRUST UPON THEM."

The above words are very familiar to many people. In the case of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, the first case may well hold true. And the people of Ulhasnagar are truly a fortunate lot, because they recognized the worth of a born leader – the right man for the right times, and chose him to lead them through the difficult days after the Emergency.

The people of Ulhasnagar chose Shri Sitaldas Harchandani to represent them, for his voice to be their own, on the floor of the Assembly house of the Government of the State of Maharashtra. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was elected to be the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from the region of Ulhasnagar in the year 1978.

From the year 1978 onwards, there was no turning back for the township of Ulhasnagar and its people. The GOLDEN AGE for Ulhasnagar had arrived.

That was the first election that Shri Sitaldas Harchandani fought and he won it comfortably. A region which had been a stronghold of the Congress Party for ages, broke its shackles, and recognized its true leader. Even the Municipal Council had a Bharatiya Janata Party majority . As way back as 1978, Ulhasnagar came to known as the Safron Front. In Parliament, Shri Rambhau Mhalgi won the elections from Thane in 1977.

Late Shri Jai Prakash Narayanji, 'The Lok Nayak' as he was lovingly called, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani's mentor and leader, used to say that an elected representative is principally responsible to his voters or his people. Words such as 'TRANSPARENCY' and 'ACCOUNTABILITY' seems to be fashionable words in a political figure's vocabulary today, but Shri Sitaldas Harchandani believed in them 23 years ago. He had made promises to the people during his various campaigning speeches and also through the BJP's political manifesto. Soon after being elected, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani began to put his words into action, watching his actions carefully, making constructive changes wherever necessary until his actions took concrete shape. His work can be compared to that of an expert farmer who looks after his crops with great love and care, working, waiting patiently for the good rains, making adjustments wherever necessary as he tends his fields, until all the hard-work gives fruit as a bountiful harvest.

Many are the wonderful projects which Shri Sitaldas Harchandani undertook as the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Ulhasnagar .

Many are the good works which Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani took up and finished in varied fields during his tenures as the elected representative of Ulhasnagar constituency. Along with the responsibilities associated with his post as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani, continued with his social work. The initiatives which he took have left an ndelible impression on the face of Ulhasnagar township.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's contribution to society has been priceless and his work can be divided into four parts : Social, Educational, Politics and Banking.

For The GOOD of SOCIETY

FOR THE GOOD OF SOCIETY

GENERAL

Dadaji's social service in life had begun after his completion of the S.S.C. Examination. During those days, it was difficult to get suitable employment. A deep sense of Social Service and a need to something good for the people was born in his tender heart . He gathered a few like minded youth like him who had a strong sense of social commitment and they decided to bring back the smiles on the faces of their people in their own small way.

Therefore, alongwith some of his friends, Dadaji decided to form a circle or association of like-minded individuals and THE NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST finally came into existence. Initially, Dadaji and his friends met frequently mostly to play ndoor and outdoor games. Subsequently, they decided to do some social service to the poor and needy students of the town and they started giving school books to the needy students.

Small service is true service while it lasts :

Of Humblest Friends, bright Creature ! scorn not one;

The Daisy, by the shadow that it casts,

Protects the lingering dew-drop from the Sun.

- WORDSWORTH , ***"To a Child"***

What started as a small idea, a long time ago, when Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was a young man of 18 years old, has now grown into a large, strong, dynamic and greatly beneficial nstitution.

NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST or NCT as it was named was formed to help poor and needy people of Ulhasnagar whom Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani saw in large numbers. His heart went out to them, and being determined, he and his likeminded associates went about helping them.

They distributed school books to needy children, opened a library for the general public, built a garden or playground for the use of children and elderly people of Ulhasnagar and set up Nari shalas for the upliftment of poor women and widows.

Dadaji tried to help each and every one of them in his own way , either personally or through his friends, associates or contact. His name, fame and words about his good deeds and about the work by his trust (NCT) began to spread among the people and day-by-day, the number of people coming to him increased. An office for the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST or the NCT was opened, and Shri Sitaldas Harchandani would be present there in his spare time. A lot of people would visit him every day and tell him about their problems. But very few, if any would turn back disappointed from his office.

Good work done by the NAV-JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST are many and as the years rolled by, his credibility and impeccable credentials in the eyes of the people grew. His stature grew from strength to strength.

Today the NAV-JEEVAN TRUST runs two normal schools one a Sindhi Medium School and another an English Medium school. It also runs a special school for the PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED called K.C. School for Deaf and Dumb students.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani founded another trust called SAI BABA TRUST which runs a special school for the MENTALLY RETARDED for mentally ill students.

ROTARY CLUB OF ULHASNAGAR

Arch C. Klumph, President of Rotary International, the sixth, serving in 1916-17, proposed to the 1917 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, the creation of an "endowment fund for Rotary....for the purpose of doing good in the world in charitable, educational and other avenues of community progress."

The fund was renamed "The Rotary Foundation" during the 1928 Convention, organized as a trust in 1931, and established as a foundation in 1938.

The main aim of The Rotary Foundation is the achievement of world understanding, goodwill and peace through international humanitarian, educational, charitable, philanthropic and cultural exchange programs.

The Rotary Foundation has programs such as Helping Grants, Polio Plus, New Opportunities Grants, the 3-H Grant which is the Health, Hunger & Humanity Grant, Matching Grant, Discovery Grant, Children's opportunities Grants, Ambassadorial Educational Scholarships, Rotary Grants for University Teachers, Rotary Peace Programs and Group Study Exchange.

The members of the Rotary Club believe in "The 4 Way Test" which is has been one of the main thrusts behind each program. Their programs are undertaken after a "Yes" is indicated for each of the four questions they put up. They ask themselves, whether of the things they think, say or do,

(1) Is it the **TRUTH?**

(2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

(3) Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

(4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Dadaji has been closely associated with the Rotary Foundation and has been a staunch hard working member for more than 3 decades. Dadaji's strong beliefs in the aims of the Rotary Foundation and the good that the Foundation was doing to society were the mainstays of his dedication to it. Dadaji believed that a lot of humanitarian work could be done via the Rotary Foundation which would benefit not only the poor and downtrodden, but society at large.

The smiles he brought onto the cheeks of countless people are proof enough of his good work done to society via the Rotary Foundation. As early as 1976, Dadaji visited United Kingdom Midtown Rotary Club, London and exchanged the Ulhasnagar Rotary Club Flag.

In 1978, Dadaji was elected the President of Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar. Under the leadership of Dadaji, the members of he Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar undertook a lot of humanitarian programs.

One of the sterling programs which the members undertook was to take care of elderly people residing at Shanti Prakash Old Age Ashram. They gave the residents of the Old Age Ashram shawls and clothes. Through various fund raising chemes and donation drives, the day to day needs of the esidents was taken care of. Under Dadaji's guidance, all other necessities of life were provided to the residents of Shanti Prakash Old Age Home who had no place to go or no one to urn to.

Dadaji felt deeply for the upliftment of the poor people in Ulhasnagar township. Poverty breaks the wills of people and takes away from them the opportunities to a better future or even those which provide them means for their survival. Mere donations by way of cash or money would help the people only temporarily but a means of Self-employment would greatly improve their existence and provide a long-term solution to their problems.

Under the leadership of Dadaji, the Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar distributed sewing machines to poor people and widows throughout Ulhasnagar township. This instilled confidence in them and benefited them greatly. Their conditions improved.

Dadaji has always been like a back bone for all those who needed support. The conditions of various villages situated immediately around Ulhasnagar needed upliftment. The plight of the villagers moved Dadaji's heart greatly. To improve the lot of the villagers who were suffering , under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar took up various projects which aimed at the upliftment of the villagers. Dadaji's work and successful implementation of the various projects restored happiness in the lives of the villagers.

SHAMSHAN BHOOMI

Dadaji is the President of Ulhasnagar No.3 Shamshan Bhoomi Trust . This trust takes care of maintenance of gardens, satsang halls and cremation grounds. Under Dadaji's leadership, the trust has been able to meet all its objectives. The Trust is also trying to improve upon the existing infrastructure by trying to introduce modern ways for cremation by installing an electric cremation system.

ULHASNAGAR – VITHALWADI

PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

ULHASNAGAR RAILWAY STATION

Before 1956, Ulhasnagar township did not have a Railway station for the use of the citizens of Ulhasnagar. Vithalwadi, an adjoining suburb had the Vithalwadi Railway Station which catered to the needs of more than 3 Lakh commuters of Ulhasnagar.This caused a lot of difficulty to the citizens of Ulhasnagar.

On numerous occasions, commuters while returning from their places of work or businesses in Bombay, stopped the local trains near the present Ulhasnagar Station by pulling the chain. Many a time, the Railway Authorities had to take severe action against such chain pullers. Such severe action included arresting them to prevent the detention of trains.

In due course, the Railway authorities were compelled to announce the opening of a new railway station between Vithalwadi and Ambernath to mitigate the genuine difficulties of the commuters who were traveling by the Local Railway to Bombay and back. Thus the work of construction of Ulhasnagar Station started and it was completed in the month of May 1956.

Initially, there were no sheds or sheltering roofs over the platforms of Ulhasnagar Railway station. The platforms were built of mud and stone. Appropriate arrangement for the supply of electricity and lighting was not made.

Thousands of commuters complained to the higher authorities that there were no arrangements for providing sheltering roofs over the platforms, sheds, water, cleanliness and electricity. Quite often animals were seen to be roaming on the platforms. The platforms also proved to be a favourite haunt of beggars and hawkers.

In the year 1960, Chandibhai College was started in Ulhasnagar. It is situated at a stone's throw distance from Ulhasnagar Railway Station. Thousands of students from Karjat to Mulund come by the local trains for attending the college. The number of trains plying between Bombay V.T., Ambernath and Karjat and vice versa were few and far between. These students were also greatly inconvenienced by the dismal state of the station's infrastructure. The students often staged dharnas or protest gatherings on the station for providing the necessary amenities but the railway authorities did not yield to them.

Looking into all these difficulties experienced by the commuters, a few likeminded people, got together and decided to form an association which should reduce the grievances of the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi stations. Thus the birth of Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association took place.

Dadaji was elected as the President of Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association and the Late Shri Mani Nair was elected as the General Secretary of the Association. Both of them took keen interest in the development of Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Stations. They immediately took initiative to solve the problems faced by the commuters and held discussions with the railway authorities. They gave a few suggestions to the authorities and some of them were assured and implemented likewise.

(1) Platform No.2 of Ulhasnagar Railway Station was

fully covered with a sheltering roof.

(2) Both Platforms No.1 and No.2 were asphalted.

(3) More lights were provided.

(4) One more sweeper was appointed.

(5) The number of local trains from Bombay to Ambernath were increased.

Dadaji and the association did not rest and strove for the provision of more amenities. Platform No.1 of the Ulhasnagar Station had not been covered with a sheltering roof. The commuters were experiencing great difficulties during the summer season and during Monsoon season.

The President of the Association, Dadaji, tried to ease the difficulties of the commuters. He gave a notice to the General Manager, Central Railway, that if the Platform No.1 of Ulhasnagar Station was not covered within a period of three months, he, the President of the Association along with his colleagues would commence a hunger strike before the office of the General Manager of Central Railways at Bombay V.T. The notice period of three months had passed but the work of construction of the shed of platform did not take place.

The President and colleagues went to the office of the General Manager of Central Railways, at Bombay V.T. individually so that the police would not be able to prevent them from entering the office of the General Manager. When all of them, about 30 persons reached the General Manager's Office, their President, Dadaji handed over a memorandum to the Private Secretary of the General Manager. He stated that they had come there to commence the hunger strike in front of the General Manager's office, since Railway authorities failed to provide shed on the Platform No.1 of Ulhasnagar Station.

The Private Secretary took the memorandum and rushed to the G.M.'s office. The General Manager who had been in a meeting, abruptly stopped it and called a few of the office bearers of the Association inside his chamber. He assured them that the work of the covering of shed at Platform No.1 of Ulhasnagar Railway Station will be started within three months time and will be completed within a period of six months. Dadaji and the office bearers were not satisfied with mere promises but asked the General Manager to give them the same assurances in writing. The same were complied within time. It was a great success of our mission. The commuters took a sigh of relief from scorching heat and heavy rains.

Widening of Platform No.1 and No.2

The width of Platform No.1 and No.2 of Ulhasnagar station were very narrow, considering the number of traveling commuters who were using them . An urgent need for widening the platforms was found to be imperative due to the increasing number of users. The Association took up this matter with the railway higher authorities. Subsequently, the association was successful in the widening of the said platforms.

Opening of Booking Office Window at Platform No.1

Initially, there was only one ticket booking office near Platform No.2 for issuing of Traveling Tickets, Platform Tickets and Season Tickets. This office was easily accessible to the commuters approaching Ulhasnagar Railway Station from Platform No.2 side . The commuters who approached Ulhasnagar Railway Station from Platform No.1 side ie. those who were from the Ulhasnagar to Karjat side, had to cross from Platform No.1 to Platform No.2 for the purchase of Travel Tickets, Platform Tickets and Season Tickets . They had to come back to Platform No.1 to commence their journey . This caused a lot of inconvenience to these commuters. This matter was taken up with the Railway authorities and a new booking office was constructed on Platform No.1. Two windows were opened for the convenience of the passengers.

Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association had taken up more issues with the Railway authorities to provide the many amenities which were necessary for the convenience of the passengers. A few of them were providing the electric indicators on both the platforms, developing the surface of the platforms, providing sweepers for cleaning the platforms, increasing the number of trains to Ambernath, Badlapur, Karjat and Bombay.

Remodelling of Ulhasnagar Station

Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association had taken up the matter of remodeling Ulhasnagar Railway Station. Since lakhs of commuters are traveling from this station, the Association made deputations to the General Manager, Regional Manager, and other higher authorities in this connection. Dadaji tried and persuaded the then D.R.M., Shri Ramji to visit Ulhasnagar station personally and verify the facts. He promised that he would visit the Ulhasnagar Station shortly and enquire himself the necessity of remodeling of Ulhasnagar Railway Station. After some time, Shri Ramji visited the Ulhasnagar Railway Station and heard the members of the Association. He assured them that he would recommend the Associations views and his findings to Railway Board. After some procedural delay, the Board approved his suggestions. An amount of Rs.50 Lakhs was sanctioned. The construction work was immediately awarded and the construction work commenced in the year 1995.

Provision of Computerised Season Tickets at Ulhasnagar

There were no arrangements for the issue of computerized season tickets at Ulhasnagar Station though the said facility had already been provided to nearby stations at Ambernath, Kalyan, Dombivili, Thane and Mulund onwards to Mumbai C.S.T.

Dadaji and the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association took up this matter with the Railway authorities for the provision of computerized season tickets at Ulhasnagar. They pleaded that the thousands of passengers traveling from Ulhasnagar Railway Station should not be deprived of this facility. However, it was only after pursuing this matter with great tenacity and resolve by the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association that the Railway Authorities conceded to this justified demand. The computerized season tickets issuing facility was provided at Ulhasnagar Railway Station from the year 2001. The inauguration of the said computerised Season Ticket issuing facility was done by Dadaji, the President of the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association.

Introduction of train from Mumbai C.S.T. to Haridwar

There has been a demand for the introduction of a new direct train from Mumbai C.S.T. to Haridwar for the last 15 years.

Since there is no suitable direct train from Mumbai C.S.T to Haridwar over the Central Railway network, it is causing great inconvenience to the passengers proceeding to Haridwar. They are forced to alight from the train at Delhi Station with their families and luggage etc. and then catch another suitable train.

The Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association considering the above genuine justified demand of passengers, took up this matter with railway officers, D.R.M., General Manager and the Railway Ministry. Dadaji did this by pursuing through correspondence, meetings and deputation etc. with a request for the introduction of a direct train from Mumbai C.S.T. to Haridwar so that the passengers could travel conveniently and safely to Haridwar.

It has also been suggested that till such time the new train is introduced atleast one bogie maybe attached to any other suitable train journeying directly to Haridwar. This would prove to be a boon for the passengers who were facing tremendous difficulties presently.

The Honourable Railway Minister Shri Nitish Kumar has also been suggested that the above demand could be met by extending the Lashkar Express Train which is at present running between Mumbai C.S.T. and Agra via Central Railway. The said train could be extended to Dehradun instead of Agra. Besides, a memorandum signed by thousands of Ulhasnagar citizens has been sent to him to put pressure on the minister and consider the demand. However Dadaji and the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association are confident that the above demand will be conceded by the Railway Minister very soon.

Introduction of Computerised All-India Reservation at Ulhasnagar

Ulhasnagar is an industrial city with a population of more than 8 Lakhs. It is a very famous city for commerce and trading centre linked with the rest of the world. A lot of people therefore come to Ulhasnagar for business and trade. The quantum of rail travel has increased day by day . There is a demand from the people for the introduction of Computerized All-India Reservation Ticket at Ulhasnagar.

As the facility of Computerised All-India Reservation Ticket at Ulhasnagar has not been provided by the Railway Authorities, the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Passengers Association President, Dadaji has taken up this matter with the Railway Authorities as well as Ministry of Railway Board. He has also been pursuing the matter by writing letters. He has also taken part in several meetings with the Railway Authorities, A.D.R.M, D.R.M. and General Manager of Central Railway and has emphasized this justified demand of the people. Besides all these actions, he has put forth his plea regarding this matter to the last Railway Ministers Late Shri Madhavrao Scindia, Shri Ramvilas Paswan, Shri Ram Naik, Miss Mamta Banerjee and also to the present Railway Minister Shri Nitish Kumar in writing. He has also sent a memorandum duly signed by thousands of citizens of Ulhasnagar in order to put pressure on the Railway Minister to concede to the demand.

Dadaji and the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association are confident that the Railway Authorities will fulfill this justified demand in the near future.

Increase in the number of trains

The population of Ulhasnagar township has increased over the years to 8 lakhs. Due to this spurt in the population, trains commuting through Ulhasnagar Railway station were always crowded. Hence passengers who wished to either board or alight from the trains found it very difficult to do so, especially during peak hours. Many a time, accidents used to take place while the passengers tried to board or alight from the trains, at times fatally. Hence there was an urgent need to increase the number of trains from Mumbai CST to Ambernath, Badlapur and Karjat and vice versa.

Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association took up this matter to the higher authorities of the railway and highlighted the problems of overcrowding faced by the people. The authorities discussed the matter extensively and finally the number of trains operating from Mumbai CST to Ambernath, Badlapur and Karjat and vice versa were slightly increased.

But this slight increase in the number of trains has not been able to solve the problem completely and Dadaji and the Association are continuing to their efforts to see that the increase in the number of trains meets with the increase in the number of the commuters.

Widening Railway Overbridge at PAWAI

Ulhasnagar being an industrial, business and trade center, has heavy vehiclular traffic over the Railway Overbridge at Ulhasnagar. This is the only bridge which is connecting East and West of Ulhasnagar.

The issue of widening the Railway Overbridge at Pawai was felt very important due to the heavy traffic. There was often obstruction to the passage of the vehicles over this bridge and this caused a great inconvenience to the citizens of Ulhasnagar.

Dadaji took up this matter with the Railway Authorities as well as the Municipal Authorities for the widening of the Pawai Bridge in writing. After a great deal of pursuance, the Railway Authorities started widening the bridge by awarding construction to the contractors. Many contractors who had started this work had failed in this mission and the job was delayed almost for seven years.

Electric and Telephone cables which existed in and around the area of construction work proved to be a delaying factor in the construction work. Dadaji helped the contractors for completing this job by getting the electric and telephone wires shifted. He met officials from M.S.E.B. and the Telephone Authorities and requested them to aid the speedy progress of the widening of the railway overbridge. Dadaji's sustained efforts with the Railway Authorities proved to be fruitful. Ultimately the Railway Authorities completed the job in the year 2002 and thus the citizens of Ulhasnagar heaved a sigh of relief. There is smooth driving of vehicular traffic over this bridge now.

Construction of Railway Overbridge in place of level crossing near Ulhasnagar Railway Station

The population of Ulhasnagar has increased to about 8 lakhs. The length of Ulhasnagar township is approximately 8 km.

Ulhasnagar being a commercial and Industrial town, there is very heavy vehicular traffic. There is only one Railway Overbridge at Pawai which connects the Eastern and Western regions of Ulhasnagar. But this single overbridge at Pawai has not been able to cope up with the heavy vehicular traffic at all times.Ulhasnagar Vithalwadi Passengers Association realized the difficulties of the commercial and industrial city. A solution to this problem would be the construction of another over bridge and the most suitable site was the railway crossing near Ulhasnagar Railway Station. Dadaji and the association discussed this matter with the Railway Authorities, the Government of Maharashtra and the local Municipal Corporation.

In order to highlight the importance of constructing a railway over bridge at the site of the crossing to the railway higher authorities, Ulhasnagar Vithalwadi Passengers Association started agitations and stopped the trains near the railway crossings.

After many years of agitations and protest gatherings, the railway authorities realized the importance of the Railway Over Bridge near Ulhasnagar Railway Station. Rs. 5 Crore was sanctioned for the construction work. The state government has also approved the construction of an approach road. The Municial Corporation has also approved the construction of the bridge over the nullah. The construction work is in progress and the project is on the verge of completion. Work on the same is expected to be completed on or before 31/3/2002.

This has been a great achievement for the Ulhasnagar Vithalwadi Passengers Association and for the people of Ulhasnagar.

VITHALWADI RAILWAY STATION

Foot Over-Bridge

Commuters used to approach Vithalwadi Railway Station from Kolsawadi, Ulhasnagar 4 and adjacent villages from the Eastern side and from Pawai Chowk, C-Block, Shantinagar from the west side of Ulhasnagar. There was no foot over-bridge to connect the East and West side of the station. The Passengers had to cross the tracks in order to board trains halting on the platform opposite to the areas from their approach to the station. This resulted in many fatal accidents.

Under the leadership of Dadaji, the Association took up this matter and wanted to provide a foot over-bridge for the convenience of the passengers which would help in preventing further accidents.

The Railway authorities inspected the sight and were realised the need of the foot over-bridge. The work of constructing a foot over-bridge commenced consequently and it was completed within six months.

Ticket Booking Window on the Eastern Side

There was no ticket booking window on the Eastern side of the Railway Station. The passengers had to cross over to the western side to purchase their Season Tickets. This practice was causing a great inconvenience to the passengers.

Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association brought this problem to the notice of the higher authorities and highlighted the genuine difficulties experienced by the passengers. Construction of a booking office window on the extended foot overbridge on the eastern side of the railway station was commenced subsequently. Thus the problem faced by the passengers from the eastern side of Vithalwadi of purchasing season tickets was solved.

Public Announcing System

Railway stations on the suburban railway system make public announcements over a speaker system, giving information to the passengers regarding the arrivals and departure of trains. The passengers are also informed about late arrival or cancellation of trains whenever it occurs. These public announcements have proved to be a great boon over the years to the millions of commuters using the suburban railway system. Unfortunately this system was not in service at Vithalwadi Railway Station. Commuters to and from Vithalwadi were thus inconvenienced. Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association pleaded with the higher authorities to introduce a public announcement system. Finally, an arrangement for the Public Announcement System was introduced at Vithalwadi Railway Station.

Electric Indicators

Similar to the Public Announcement System, Electric Indicators have been installed on the railway station platforms of the suburban railway system. These indicate the arrival and departure of trains with their scheduled timings and also indicate whether they are trains which stop at all stations (Slow Trains) or only on some of them (Fast Trains). If the arriving train was to be a Fast train, then the names of the stations where the said train would halt will also be indicated on these indicators. Such indicators have proved to be of immense help to commuters of the suburban railway system.

But Vithalwadi Railway station was not possessing such a system of Electric Indicators. This caused a lot of inconvenience, anguish and confusion to the passengers. This problem was taken up by the Association, under the able leadership of Dadaji. After long talks with the higher authorities, Electric Indicators were installed on the platforms and also near the booking office for the convenience of the passengers.

Introduction of 12 car local trains

With the growth of the country's economy , there was an increase in the spending power of the middle class of Indian society. Banks and financial institutions began to the extend credit in the form of housing loans, consumer loans etc. The need to own a house or an apartment grew among the middle class of the cities. They began to migrate to the suburbs of cities where the rates of real estate and property was affordable. The growth of the population in the suburbs of Mumbai extending beyond Thane on the Central Line in recent years has been phenomenal.

Since the majority of those migrating to the suburbs were of the salaried class, with jobs in the city, the government had to improve the transportation system to and from the suburbs. Even though Mumbai boasts of a very efficient bus transport system, it is the suburban railway system which bears a large percentage of the burden of providing public transport services to the citizens of the suburbs.

Earlier all the trains of the suburban railway system had 9-cars. With the increase in the population of the suburbs, the number of cars attached to trains on the fast tracks was increased to 12 in order to alleviate the problems of overcrowding.

Vithalwadi also experienced a similar growth of population in recent years. Trains commuting through Vithalwadi Railway station were always crowded. Hence passengers who wished to either board or alight from the trains found it very difficult to do so, especially during peak hours. Many a time accidents used to take place while the passengers tried to board or alight the trains, at times fatally. Hence there was an urgent need to either increase the number of trains halting at Vithalwadi Station, or to increase the number of cars from 9 to 12 on all the trains halting there.

This problem faced by the people of Vithalwadi was a genuine one. Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association took up this matter with the higher authorities and pleaded on behalf of the passengers. Finally the authorities realized that the way to alleviate the problems faced by the passengers of Vithalwadi was to increase the number of cars from 9 to 12 cars. They approved this increase in the number of cars to 12 on principal and intimated Dadaji about the same.

Extension of Platforms

Due to the imminent introduction of 12 car trains halting at Vithalwadi Railway station, it was found necessary to extend the platforms to accommodate the three extra compartment cars within the platform limits. Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association worked towards getting the approval for the same and after discussions with the railway authorities, the platforms of Vithalwadi Railway station were extended to accommodate 12 car compartment trains.

Extra Platform for Goods Trains

Since Ulhasnagar is an Industrial and Commercial town, a lot of business is transacted in the township. Goods and raw material is required by the manufacturers in Ulhasnagar in order to manufacture or produce finished goods. These raw materials are brought to Ulhasnagar from various parts of the country, both by rail transport as well as road transport. Rail transport forms an important mode of transport of goods to and from Ulhasnagar.

At present, the nearest station to Ulhasnagar for loading and unloading of goods and parcels which are transported by rail has been Kalyan Junction. All the raw materials as well as the finished goods have to be transported by road from Kalyan Junction to and from Ulhasnagar. This not only adds to the costs due to usage of two modes of transport, but proves to be an additional burden on the road transport section and also causes delay in transportation.

Addressing this problem, Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association held discussions with the authorities of the railways and have proposed that the railways provide a facility for the loading and unloading of goods and parcels at Vithalwadi Station which is a more convenient location. Dadaji pleaded with the authorities to sanction and construct an additional platform at Vithalwadi Railway Station which would cater to the goods trains used for the transportation of goods and parcels.

Under the able leadership of Dadaji, the Association is putting in a lot of efforts to see this useful project through, which will help reduce the problems of a lot of people. Hopefully in the near future, an extra platform will be built at Vithalwadi Railway station to accommodate the goods trains.

Demolition of Bakhras near Vithalwadi Station

About 40 Bakhras near Vithalwadi Railway Station were demolished by the Railway Authorities and no compensation was paid to the Bakhra owners by the Railway authorities.These bakhras had been given to them by the Railway Authorities.They made their representation through Dadaji to get their bakhras reconstructed.

Dadaji took up this matter with the Railway Authorities in writing and by meeting higher authorities. He suggested that if the Railway Authorities were unable to provide the said bakhras near Vithalwadi Railway Station , they may provide the same at a place nearby the railway station or any other suitable place.

However the Railway authorities turned down the demands as the place was required for the Railways' purpose and the authorities suggested Dadaji and the Ulhasnagar-Vithalwadi Railway Passengers Association to approach to the Municipal Authorities and request them to provide an alternate place for their livelihood. This matter has been referred to the Municipal Authorities for their consideration so that an alternate place will be provided to the owners of bakhras as early as possible.

ULHASNAGAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

"The glorious sun
Stays in his course and plays the alchemist,
Turning with splendour of his precious eye
The meager cloddy earth to glittering gold"
- Shakespeare, *King John, III, 1*

Even though Ulhasnagar is an Industrial city which has a very popular atmosphere for business, commerce and trading and is linked to the rest of the world, it unfortunately did not have organizations which are meant to guide the people from these sections of the society or to solve their unique problems.

After being elected as a M.L.A. from Ulhasnagar Constituency, Dadaji often took up several burning issues and problems which occurred to the people from the business, commerce and trading sections of Ulhasnagar, addressing them on the floor of the House of Representatives of the Maharashtra State Legislative Assembly.

Many of these pertained to Electricity supply and distribution problems concerned with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Labour problems concerned with the Labour Department, Sales Tax problems, Shop Act problems and issues relating to incentives to be granted for the growth of Industry and Business.

Every time Dadaji addressed these problems on the floor of the house, he was assured that proper attention will be given to the problems of the people from the Industry & Trade sectors of Ulhasnagar and that their problems would be solved. Dadaji drew the attention of the house that Ulhasnagar was an Industrial Township which was exporting a lot of goods such as engineering goods, textiles, confectionery, cutlery, toys, furniture etc. In order to give more emphasis, Dadaji pleaded that all this was done with a very meagre margin of profit, but at the same time not compromising on the quality of the manufactured goods.

Dadaji was worried about these problems and the grievances of those from the Industry, Commerce & Trade sectors. He desired to help them in during their time of need. Dadaji thought very deeply over this matter, and in order to solve the problems of the people pertaining to Industry , Commerce & Trade, he decided to form an organisation.

Dadaji arranged for a meeting with his good friends and put forth his views regarding addressing the grievances of people in Ulhasnagar who were from the fields of Industry, Commerce & Trade. After listening to Dadaji's views, a decision was taken in the said meeting that an Association should be started in Ulhasnagar which would address and help solve such problems and grievances. Subsequently, the name of the organization was chosen unanimously as "ULHASNAGAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY."

Soon after that, the Elections of the said chamber were held and Dadaji was elected its President. His team consisting of two Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, a Treasurer and Six Committee Members were also elected unanimously.

When Dadaji was appointed the as President of Ulhasnagar Chamber of Commerce & Industry in the office viz. 67, Laxmi Market, 1st Floor, Furniture Bazar, Ulhasnagar-3, Dadaji offered to use his office for the same. He also provided the telephone, furniture, fixtures etc. for the use of the organisation.

Aims & Objectives of the Ulhasnagar Chamber of Commerce & Industry were made to help and guide the people of Ulhasnagar in their Business, Trade, Commerce & Industry and they are given as follows :-

- To encourage and promote friendly relations and business co-operation among those engaged in Trade, Commerce,Industry, Transport, Banking, Insurance etc. in Ulhasnagar, Thane District.
- To make systematic and organized efforts to promote and achieve the healthy growth and expansion of Trade, Commerce, Industry etc.
- To initiate, encourage and promote observance of just, equitable principles in Trade and to form a code or codes of fair practices to ensure fair dealings and to promote confidence in the public in Trade & Business transactions.
- To make systematic and organized efforts to secure the well being of the people engaged in Industry, Trade, Commerce in Ulhasnagar and Thane District in particular and of the Indian Business Community in general, both in India and abroad in all aspects.
- To study fully the economic, Industrial and Commercial problems with a view to promote the objects of the Chamber and to collect statistical and other information and try to disseminate the same among the Members of the Chamber from time to time.
- To subscribe, to become a member of and co-operative with any other Association, whether incorporated or not,

whose objects are either wholly or partly similar to those of the Chamber and to procure from and communicate to any such association such information as may be likely to further the objects of the Chamber.

- To take all legitimate steps to initiate, encourage, promote, support or oppose according to necessity, Legislative, Administrative or such other measures of Government, Semi-Government, local or any other Public Authority in the interest of Trade, Commerce and Industry etc.
- To make representations either by correspondence or by leading deputations to central or state government or other proper authorities as the case may be and to take all necessary steps either to encourage the interest or to seek redress in matter adversely affecting the interest of Trade, Commerce and Industry.
- To advance and promote Commercial and Industrial Education and to found support establishments and institutions for the same and to associate with universities or other institutions in Ulhasnagar, Thane District for the promotion of such education or institutions.
- To institute special inquiry and to take suitable action with a view to remove the difficulties in respect of any problem connected with Trade, Commerce, Industry etc.
- To try to settle by arbitration, commercial disputes if any, between members of the Chamber, if both parties are agreeable to such a course.
- To ensure, wherever possibly, organized and concerned action on all subjects involving the interest of members including regulating conditions of employment of Industrial Labour in various industries represented by the members of the chamber.

- To arrange to hold conferences, exhibitions and seminars from time to time, to create awakening and focus popular attention on matters affecting trade, commerce and industry and economic development of Ulhasnagar or Thane District in general.
- To organize meetings, lectures, study classes and social functions, industrial or study tours in India or abroad in furtherance of the aims and objectives of the chambers.
- To give suitable donations for deserving causes whenever desirable.
- To try and do all that may be necessary for the furtherance and realisation of these objectives and the work will be carried on a non-profit basis as this is a service organization set up for a charitable purpose to serve trade, commerce and Industry.
- To receive money as donations from an Individual or company or association or Trust with a specific purpose and to create separate funds and utilize the interest out of it for the purpose specified by the donor.

Thus Dadaji formed a society named the Ulhasnagar Chamber of Commerce & Industry with the above aims and objectives under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 17th July 2000. All the members signed and submitted a memorandum of association of the proposed society under the Societies Registration Act 1860 to the Assistant Charity Commissioner, Thane District.

AFFILIATION OF ULHASNAGAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY WITH MAHARASHTRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY :-

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mumbai is already serving the areas of Industry, Trade & Commerce in the whole of Maharashtra State for the past 75 years. It has been doing yeoman service to the people of Maharashtra who are connected to Industry, Commerce and Trade . The members of Ulhasnagar Chamber of Commerce and Industry took a decision to affiliate it with the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The same has been achieved as the Authorities of the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce and Industry has considered the application and has granted recognition for the Ulhasnagar Chamber of Commerce and Industry during the year 2001.

For the GOOD of POLITICS

FOR THE GOOD OF POLITICS

Even while working selflessly for others through the Navjeevan Circle Trust, Dadaji was attracted by the policies and aspirations of the political party THE JAN SANGH. He felt that his own feelings were reflected in the party manifesto. He felt he would be in a better position to help the common man from within a political party. He joined THE JAN SANGH and swiftly rose in position and esteem within the party ranks. He was appointed the TREASURER of the party in 1966.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani worked hard, sincerely and diligently for the party and the people with his calm and unassuming manner. Many people who were associated with him during those days were enamoured by his steady head for working out solutions for seemingly tough problems. He was appointed GENERAL SECRETARY of the Jan Sangh Party in 1969.

As General Secretary of the Jan Sangh between 1969 to 1972, many were the insights which Shri Sitaldas Harchandani gave to problems and the decisions which he took for the same were highly appreciated by all.

His impeccable reputation, cool head, unassuming manner, sincerity, diligence and great leadership qualities were recognized by one and all as he went about his work quietly but with a studied and calm efficiency .

In the year 1972, six years after he left his secure Government job, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was appointed PRESIDENT of the JAN SANGH party.

For five years, between 1972 to 1977, the Jan Sangh Party grew in strength under the able stewardship of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani as President of the Party in Ulhasnagar township.

Then in 1975, dark clouds loomed over the political landscape when the entire nation was brought under Emergency Rule by the then ruling political party, the Congress, under Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Freedom of Speech and Expression was curtailed and all opposition parties were brought under stress. Many great leaders from various opposition parties were imprisoned under falsified charges or for various other reasons. A dark period in Free India's otherwise blemish-less political history had begun.

During the days of the Emergency, Shri Sitaldas Harchandani took part in various protest marches etc. He was arrested alongwith Shri Tekchand Mirpuri, Dr. Issar Parwani, Shri Pahilaj Chanchlani and others for defying the Indian Defense Rules and imprisoned for 9 days at the Thane Jail. His first experience of prison life did not deter Shri Sitaldas Harchandani from standing up for what was Just and Right. The hardship he endured during those 9 days at the Thane Jail, only made his determination to help people attain Justice and to work for good causes stronger than before. His resolve strengthened. He took part in a number of agitations and Protest Marches. He was jailed again and again (3 or 4 times more) for standing up for Human Rights.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani is blessed with rare leadership qualities of a great leader of the people. The clouds of Emergency rule lifted and the people of Ulhasnagar recognized the qualities of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani who had led them through the troubled times, valiantly. It is only in times of trouble that one gets to know who their actual friends and enemies are. They had found in him a Leader they could trust.

"SOME ARE BORN GREAT, SOME ACQUIRE GREATNESS, SOME HAVE GREATNESS THRUST UPON THEM."

The above words are very familiar to many people. In the case of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, the first case may well hold true. And the people of Ulhasnagar are truly a fortunate lot, because they recognized the worth of a born leader – the right man for the right times, and chose him to lead them through the difficult days after the Emergency.

The people of Ulhasnagar chose Shri Sitaldas Harchandani to represent them, for his voice to be their own, on the floor of the Assembly house of the Government of the State of Maharashtra. Shri Sitaldas Harchandani was elected to be the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from the region of Ulhasnagar in the year 1978.

From the year 1978 onwards, there was no turning back for the township of Ulhasnagar and its people. The GOLDEN AGE for Ulhasnagar had arrived.

That was the first election that Shri Sitaldas Harchandani fought and he won it comfortably. A region which had been a strong-hold of the Congress Party for ages, broke its shackles, and recognized its true leader. Ulhasnagar chose Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and the BJP. Even the Municipal Council had a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) majority. As way back as 1978.

Ulhasnagar came to known as the Safron Front. Shri Ram Bhau Malgi was chosen as the M.P. from Thane.

Many are the projects which Shri Sitaldas Harchandani undertook as the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Ulhasnagar.

Many are the good works which Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani took up and finished in varied fields during his tenure as the elected representative of Ulhasnagar constituency. Along with the responsibilities associated with his post as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani, continued with his social work. The initiatives which he took have left an indelible impression on the face of Ulhasnagar township.

ULHASNAGAR

THE CITY OF THE DISPLACED – OR IS IT SO NOW?

During the 2nd World War, Ulhasnagar was a Military Camp. After the Partion of India, the military vacated this camp and refugees from Sindh Province were rehabilitated there. After some time, it was given the shape of Ulhasnagar township.

Ulhasnagar, as a township consisted of five camps. These five camps were set up by the Government of India. They were meant for the rehabilitation of the unfortunate people who had fled from the riots across the international border during the Partition of India from Sindh Province.

These people came to India with very few possessions, memories of better days, and with determination to live their lives with dignity. Even though their expectations for their rehabilitations were high, the Government of India was able to give them limited help. It was mainly due to their steely resolve that they were able to withstand the trials, tribulations and travails of settling down in a new place and starting life afresh with little or no external help.

Having managed and developed businesses on large and medium scale before partition, the industrious minds of the community set out on the tedious and long road to prosperity. The people of Ulhasnagar set up small scale industrial units and cottage industrial units. The Ulhasnagar city as seen today is a thriving and bustling center of entrepreneurial prosperity. This road to prosperity was paved by strong hearts and keen minds. Today the city of Ulhasnagar manufactures a lot of home-made articles and small scale industrial products which is marketed not only within Maharashtra State but throughout the nation. Many products are being exported to other nations too.

So when Dadaji became the elected Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Ulhasnagar Constituency, the social background was one of very high expectations on one side and distrust and confusion on the other. It was Dadaji's great diligence, stupendous leadership qualities and love for the people that created a turning point in the history of Ulhasnagar Constiuency.

DADAJI'S WORK VIA THE SCREENING COMMITTEE

The people of Ulhasnagar were basically refugees from Sind, West Pakistan from days of the Partition in 1947. As such they were allotted rooms in the barracks to stay in the 5 camps of Ulhasnagar. Having lived there for decades, most of them were not able to enjoy ownership rights and were considered to be illegal occupants.

As the time passed, family members were increased, and the occupants of the barracks encroached upon the adjacent land in front of the room or in the backside of the room. Some of them occupied government land on both sides of their roads for running businesses and for their livelihood. The Government of India decided that their encroachment and their unauthorized occupancy should be regularized at the recommended rates fixed by the Government of India.

In this connection, Shri Mathrani, Secretary, Rehabilitation, Government of India was deputed to Ulhasnagar for settlement with the refugee leaders. After consulting with the leaders, it was decided to make 11-5-1965 as cut off date. It was also decided that encroachment made on or before 11-5-1965 will be regularized at the government's concessional rates that Rs. 3.50 per sq. yds for old barracks and Rs. 5.00 per sq. yards for commercial purposes.

Before Dadaji's election as M.L.A. a few meetings of the Screening Committee were held and a few cases were regularized. However, Dadaji being an M.L.A., tried to have many more meetings of the Screening Committee to expedite the load of about 20,000 cases. Before him, there was no practice to call the concerned parties to the Screening Committee meetings whose occupancy was to be decided.

He emphasized that the party concerned should be called in the meeting , to hear him/her personally, to which all the members ultimately agreed. Shri Rambhau Mhalgi, then M.P. wholeheartedly supported Dadaji in deciding the cases and they had decided / settled about 18,000 cases during Dadaji's tenure as M.L.A. from the year 1978 to 1990.

The above 18,000 cases which were regularized were before 11-5-1965, but there were many more unauthorized encroachment after 11-5-1965 which were to be regularised. These people approached Dadaji for regularizing their un-authorised constructions on Government's land. Dadaji took up this matter in the Legislative Assembly House. During the Budget Session of 1980, while discussing the Budget Estimate on Revenue and Rehabilitation. Dadaji said that unauthorized construction upto 11-5-1965 had been regularized and that the year 1980 was in progress. During the 15 years period since 1965 to 1980 a lot of people had migrated to Maharashtra not only from Sind Province, Pakistan, but from other parts of India and had settled in Ulhasnagar. He pleaded that according to the policy of Maharashtra Government, those persons who migrated from other states and were residing in Maharashtra State should be treated as Maharashtravasis. Hence such people's unauthorised constructions, during the period 1965 to 1980, a period of more than 15 years should be regularized.

Dadaji had a proposal to regularize more than 40,000 such cases and approached Shalinitai Patil with the same i.e.

those cases from the years 1965 to 1980, Dadaji was assured by Shalinitai Patil on the floor of the House of Maharashtra Assembly in the budget sessions that they will be acted upon.

During these 15 long years, Dadaji pleaded that as per the policy of the Maharashtra Government, those persons who had migrated from other Indian States to Maharashtra will be treated as residents of Maharashtra. Hence these people are entitled for all the concessions or rights which the original residents of Maharashtra enjoy.

She assured Dadaji that all necessary steps would be taken very soon and that the work of regularization of unauthorized occupants would be taken up immediately.

Soon a City Survey Office was opened in Ulhasnagar and the work of surveying the city was commenced. The entire survey took 5 long years. Upon the completion of this survey some of these unauthorized constructions were given chalta numbers.

After assuming work, Dadaji quickly streamlined the Committee's work and held regular meetings with the members. Work by the committee began in an orderly manner and the pending work was completed or executed in a methodic and detailed fashion. Productivity of the Screening committee almost doubled during his tenure.

Dadaji took up the matter of regularization work to the government authorities. He suggested that computation of the records of the recognition work should be started and that these are to be given to the Screening Committee as had been done earlier.

Many meetings were held with eminent personalities from various government departments. Dadaji met with prominent authorities at Sachivalya, from the Revenue Department, Additional Commissioner - Thane, Ulhasnagar Township President of Municipal Corporation etc.

According to the Land Revenue Act, a price of Rs.50/= per square yard was fixed for them.

It was decided that a reserve price would be charged. The reserve price would be as follows :-

Rs. 2.50 per sq. yard for old barracks
Rs. 3.65 per sq. yard for residential occupations
Rs. 5.00 per sq. yard for commercial purposes

Getting the government authorities to finalise this proposal was a very great feat indeed. Orders effecting the same were to be issued.

Unfortunately, around the same time, elections for MLA was announced. Dadaji lost the elections in 1990.

This proved to be very disastrous for all the years of hardship, effort and work Dadaji had put in to try and regularize the land ownership / occupation problems of his people. His successor to the MLA post did not show the same interest in this matter which is of prime importance in every dispossessed citizen of Ulhasnagar. Dadaji's proposal was not taken up by the successor. This matter is still pending, even after a decade since Dadaji provided a solution.

That which lack of a political position prevented Dadaji from doing in a large scale (almost 40,000 cases as per his proposal), Dadaji tried to do on a small scale on his own.

DADAJI'S WORK FOR POOR WIDOWS AND POOR PEOPLE

There were many poor widows and poor persons who were unable to afford the meagre amount to buy their residences in the Barracks or their occupied plots of land.

Dadaji approached many philanthropists from Bombay and requested them to donate generously and come to the rescue of the deprived widows of Ulhasnagar, for getting their sanad issued.

Due to Dadaji's magnanimous private efforts, about 370 such widows were benefited and sanads were issued and thus they became the owners of their barracks.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING THE ULHASNAGAR WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Water is the source of life. All civilizations started and grew near river banks. Rivers have been the main source of water for people throughout history. The water in the rivers flow continuously from a higher level to sea level. As technology improved, ways in which this water can be harnessed were worked out and improvisations were made as per the geographical realities which existed so that a continuous supply of water was readily available throughout the year. The Industrial Age saw the growth of factories and Industries along river banks due to the need of a steady supply of water for industrial growth.

Ulhasnagar is a city which is situated along the banks of River Ulhas. Its water had been the cause for the sustenance of settlements throughout the centuries. Industries were setup alongside the banks of River Ulhas too.

The people of Ulhasnagar had to turn towards other sources for the of supply of water. The public water supply schemes from the government via pipelines became the only source of water for the people of Ulhasnagar.

The city has been and is still growing at a steady pace, but the infrastructure set up by the government to supply water to the people of Ulhasnagar was unfortunately not growing at the same rate. Hence even today the people of Ulhasnagar face a shortage of drinking water.

As the supply of water through the public water supply pipeline system was inadequate, water tankers are also being put into action to redress this problem.

Since the time of inception of the camps and barracks in Ulhasnagar, the government had installed authorized and legal water connections to the people of Ulhasnagar. The supply of water through these connections had to be regularized since the demand was more than the supply. Hence the time of water supply had to be reduced. The people of Ulhasnagar began to get water supply twice a day only.

A recent newspaper report (a report during 1st week of May 2002) says that the people in some areas of Ulhasnagar are now receiving water supply only once a day, and that too only for barely 20 minutes a day.

This problem was more severe when Dadaji was the elected representative of Ulhasnagar. He wanted to help the people and redress the problems regarding regular water supply for the people of Ulhasnagar.

He thought about this problem deeply and proposed a plan of action. Through his tenacity and his power of leadership, he was able to get a huge sum of Rs. 2 crores and Nineteen Lakhs sanctioned from the government .

His plan was put into practice .The people of Ulhasnagar breathed sighs of relief when their problems regarding water supply were solved to a some extent.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING THE NO-OBJECTION-CERTIFICATE ISSUE

Food, water, clothing, shelter and electricity are the main requirements for a person living in today's age. Of those I have mentioned, the supply of / regularization of / distribution of the following three requirements ie. water, shelter and electricity falls under the direct purview of the Government.

Dadaji observed that a lot of difficulty was being faced by people in order to get legal / authorized water supply connections and electrical connections. A system of issuing No-Objection-Certificates by the Administrator's Office was in place. Drinking water pipeline connections and electrical connections were granted to only those people who were able to acquire these No-Objection-Certificates. Acquiring these N.O.C.s were a time-consuming and slow process, and the people of Ulhasnagar suffered the brunt of living without regularized water and electrical connections.

Dadaji wrote a lot of letters to the concerned authorities, argued and pleaded the cause of the people with them, arranged meetings with them and held long talks with the authorities. He raised this matter on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly and by a cut motion, he made the Government realize the sufferings of the people of Ulhasnagar.

His dedication to help his people saw to it that the people of Ulhasnagar received their rewards. The government finally ended this system of insisting on the procurement of No-Objection-Certificates from the Administrator's Office in order to receive legal and regularized water / electrical connections.

Dadaji brought the smiles back on the faces of a lot of residents of Ulhasnagar due to this commendable work.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY

The Ulhasnagar Electricity Division was the biggest division, bigger than the whole of Maharashtra. Ulhasnagar Electricity Division can boast of hosting the largest number of electricity consumers as compared to any other Electrical Division in the state. Inspite of being the largest electrical division, shortage of staff has been a constant problem which had plagued this division. Since the required number of staff was not being made available, a lot of complaints were lying pending with them and proper attention or timely remedies for people's problems were not forthcoming.

The city of Ulhasnagar was prospering mainly due to its small-scale industries and cottage industry sectors which required an uninterrupted supply of electricity without voltage fluctuations. Unfortunately, since the supply of electricity was irregular and laced with voltage fluctuating problems, the consumers of electricity in the small scale industry and cottage industry sections of Ulhasnagar suffered constantly.

Dadaji's heart went out to these hardworking and sincere people and noticing that their efforts to earn a living and to improve the conditions of their families and their surroundings were being hampered because of the problems associated with the supply of electricity, he began to address the problem dedicatedly. He studied the entire problem rationally.

The Government or the Electricity Division was experiencing genuinely serious problems themselves due to the heavy work load and the shortage of staff. The number of transformers to distribute electricity and the entire infra-structure to supply electricity was inadequate when compared with the number of consumers who had to be serviced.

Dadaji wanted to help amend this situation and met the authorities of Maharashtra Electricity Board and its then Chairman Shri Bhalerao. Explaining the difficulties faced by the people of Ulhasnagar, Dadaji discussed in detail the various ways in which these problems could be resolved.

Dadaji worked towards improving the working atmosphere of the Ulhasnagar Electrical Division, noticing that they had a very small office space and a shortage of staff. He moved the government with his sincere pleadings and the government granted Rs. 3 Crores for the improvement of the supply of electricity in Ulhasnagar.

Due to Dadaji's efforts, Plot No. 178 on Kalyan-Ambernath Road was allotted to M.S.E.B. for the purpose of construction of a workshop. He worked along with the screening committee and added extra impetus towards solving this issue. A building for the workshop was constructed.

Since the Ulhasnagar Electricity Division was very huge, its size itself might be hindering its operation, compounded by the problems of shortage of staff. Hence Dadaji suggested to the Government that the Ulhasnagar Electricity Division should be further divided into two division ie. One division which will serve Camp 1,2,&3 and another division which will serve Camp 4 and Camp 5. His suggestion was accepted by the government.

This subdivision of the single huge division brought a lot of relief to the people of Ulhasnagar since their problems began to be addressed in a more organized way. Dadaji was instrumental in expanding the number of the staff and this success of his proved to be very beneficial to the people.

Sitaldasji helped in the government allotting 2 more sites for M.S.E.B. for expansion plans , one in C Block and another at Camp 3. The C Block site was under dispute and later resolved due to Dadaji's efforts.

Electricity wires had to be passed through D.O.F. (Ordinance Factory) to the M.S.E.B. Workshop at Ulhasnagar Camp 3. In order to overcome the objections which were raised, Dadaji wrote a letter, spoke on the telephone and sent fax messages to the General Manager in Charge in Calcutta and got permission for M.S.E.B. Ulhasnagar to pass the wires underground.

Dadaji has discussed with Cahairman M.S.E.B. Mumbai for lying underground wires in Ulhasnagar in the same manner as in Mumbai. The chairman has assured Dadaji that the work will be carried out immediately.

In order to improve the supply of Electricity in Ulhasnagar, Dadaji's persuasiveness and tenacity for solving problems saw to it that more transformers were installed and 3 more Sub-Stations were opened.

The efforts of Dadaji regarding the regularization and improvement of Electricity Supply in Ulhasnagar can be seen by anyone who visits or lives in Ulhasnagar today. The joy on the faces of hard working people are proof enough.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING HEALTH CARE

MATERNITY HOSPITAL – ULHASNAGAR 4

"The importance of Good Health is realized by anyone only after loosing it !" is a common saying. That is why when one is ill or when one needs health care, doctors and nurses seem to us to be the true images of God on Earth.

Ulhasnagar is a thickly populated city and has a population of roughly 7 lakhs of people. For such a densely populated city, it cannot boast of a modern hospital or health care unit which is within the reach of the common man. There do exist a few private hospitals, maternity clinics and health care units, but for the economically challenged citizens, there is one hospital called Government's Central Hospital.

Scriptures say that great messiahs like Jesus Christ and Lord Krishna were born in inhospitable surroundings such as a cattle shed and a prison cell. But most of us common mortals are born in clean surroundings with people to assist our mothers and to bring a smile on their faces when they see our howling faces for the first time.

For the economically challenged people of Ulhasnagar, good maternity hospitals where they would be able to admit the mother-to-be who would be taken good care, both pre-delivery as well as post-delivery care, were just wishful dreams.

Dadaji's heart cried out alongwith the economically poor mothers and their families at their plight. Dadaji approached the government to help such poor and needy mothers. His beseeching words regarding a plan to help such people fell on soft hearts of the people in the government. The government has agreed to Dadaji's proposal and plan to establish a 50 beded Maternity Hospital at Ulhasnagar 4. The Hospital was completed and inaugurated by the Health Minister Mrs. Lalita Rao.

CENTRAL HOSPITAL

This Hospital is the second biggest in Thane District. It has the standards of a Civil Hospital. This hospital was housed in the Military Barracks since it was setup for the use and treatment of Military personnel during World War II. After the Partition, it was opened for the refugees of Sind, West Pakistan. The condition of the hospital was so miserable that the patients were afraid to be admitted there for their treatment. Dogs and pigs used to have free access to the wards. All amenities and trained personnel which are commonly found in normal hospitals such as furniture and fixtures, equipment, doctors, nurses or even a steady supply of medicines were absent .

When Dadaji was elected as an M.L.A in 1978, he took up this matter with the Minister's Council and subsequently in the floor of the house, depicting the poor condition of the hospital. Dadaji's persistent efforts in the area of Health Care resulted in the Government of Maharashtra sanctioning an amount of 1 Crore and Twenty Lakhs for the present Central Hospital.

Modern Equipment such as Sophisticated X-Ray Units have been installed and the appointment of expert Doctors and skilled nursing staff have been made. A Modern Operation Theatre and other medical departments have been made a part of the hospital.

The O.P.D. or the Out-Patient Department Building for the hospital is under construction and this will cost an approximate amount of Rs. 2.75 crores.

BLOOD BANK

Though the Central Hospital is a 202 bedded hospital, arrangement for the supply of blood of various types during cases of Emergency Operations had not been made. With Dadaji's efforts a Blood Bank was opened in the hospital and from time to time, colleges, schools and other voluntary institutions were approached for the donation of blood.

THE EMPLOYMENT STATE INSURANCE HOSPITAL

The Employment State Insurance Hospital in Ulhasnagar 3 required additional beds. Dadaji met the Government Authorities and due to his efforts, the Employee State Insurance Hospital, Ulhasnagar 3 received an additional 100 beds.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING IMPROVEMENT OF DISPLACED COLONIES

Ulhasnagar is a city with people who were basically refugees from the days of the Partition. As such they were allotted barracks to stay in the camps. Development of the city hence had to start from scratch and it was a slow process.

There was an agreement between the Government of Maharashtra and the Sindhi Leaders (as a package deal) that whatever surplus amount which was recovered from the sale of properties will be utilized for the development of that colony.

Dadaji wanted to hasten the process of development. He approached the Government of Maharashtra and he skillfully urged the Government that Ulhasnagar should receive a special grant since it was populated by displaced people. The Government of Maharashtra sanctioned Rs. 1 Crore for its development.

This money was given to the Ulhasnagar Municipal Council for the construction of the Town Hall for which 80 lakhs were earmarked, 10 lakhs were earmarked for the construction of a primary level school where at present Dunichand Kalani College is situated at Ulhasnagar – 1 and Rs. 10 Lakhs for widening of Hira Ghat Bridge connecting Ulhasnagar 3 and 4.

An amount of Rs. 70 Lakhs was also got sanctioned for the Development of Hutment Dwellers.

Dadaji work for hastening the development of the displaced people's colony and the procurement of the special government grant proved to be a very happy news not only for the residents of Ulhasnagar, but also for the other 34 Sindhi

Colonies in Maharashtra. They too received special grants from the government of Maharashtra. Pimpri Chinchwad Corp. received 30 lakhs for its development and other colonies were also given some funds.

When the Sindhis migrated from the Sindh Province (now in Pakistan) of the erstwhile United India, to India, they were treated as refugees. The government was kind enough to grant them loans for their rehabilitation. Even though the loans amounted to a few thousands each , year by year, the total amount appreciated over a period of 20 years, due to the addition of interest on them which the economically backward citizens found difficult to repay. The original amount of the loans was 40 Lakhs, which multiplied to Rs. 1.70 Crores.

Dadaji took up this matter with the government and persuaded the government to waive off the loan amount. Dadaji had to struggle many years for this cause. Finally the government waived off these loan amount and the economically backward people thanked Dadaji for his good work.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Telephone Exchange and telecommunication systems in Ulhasnagar were manual systems before 1978.

In an age where communication and transfer of information means savings in time, increased productivity and thereby profits, out-dated technological systems hamper the growth of society. This would prove to be detrimental to the people on the long run.

The engines of growth for the township of Ulhasnagar were the Small Scale Industries and the Cottage Industries. Information transfer, at the right time would mean increased productivity, increased profits and thereby an improvement of the standards of living of the people of Ulhasnagar.

The manual telecommunciation systems and the telephone exchange were proving to be hindrances to the growth of Ulhasnagar township as envisaged by the small scale industrialists. Dadaji pondered over this problem and painstakingly formulated plans to tackle this situation.

When Dadaji became an MLA, he took up this issue with the higher authorities under the Central Government. He even made trips to Delhi to discuss with the Higher Officials of Telecommunications in detail the problems faced by the people of Ulhasnagar. He met the Director Mr. Sangal and the Minister of Telecommunications. Dadaji had taken along with him the figures of the population of Ulhasnagar, the number of small scale industries there etc. in order to justify the establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Ulhasnagar. Dadaji iscussed with him, giving him the example of Dombivili which lthough having a smaller population than Ulhasnagar, was ossessing an auto-exchange. Mr. Sangal promised to help him nd put the matter in his list of top priorities.

Dadaji sought the help of Shri Rambhau Malghi who was Member of Parliament (M.P.) and after more than 3 to 4 trips ɔ New Delhi, further discussions with higher officials, an uto-exchange for Ulhasnagar was approved.

Upon receiving the approval for setting up the auto-exchange, ıere arose the question of a plot for establishing it. The plot /hich had been selected for it had been earlier reserved for ɔme educational developmental purpose.

Dadaji approached the Municipal Corporation for modifying ıe plan and ear marking it for Post & Telecommunication. The tate government was approached for allotment of the same plot ɔr telephones.

Dadaji undertook a hunger strike before the office of the tate Government Revenue Minister. The State Government evenue Minister Shri Uttamrao Patil was approached by Dadaji nd Dadaji was given an assurance by him that the necessary rders would be issued to the telephone authorities immediately.

The orders were issued and the necessary plans and ketches for the establishment of the Auto-Exchange was carried ut. The order for the purchase of the Auto-Exchange from ıpan was placed with the Japanese firm by the committee esignated by the Central Government. The necessary work rders for the construction of the building to house the telephone xchange were issued. and tenders were invited. The work of construction was entrusted to M/s. Saibaba Construction Company of Mulund.

Mr. Singal, the Director of Telecommunications appreciated the efforts taken by Dadaji and urged him to personally see that the construction work would finish as per schedule.

There was apprehension that if the machinery arrived before the building had been constructed, then it might be diverted to another town. Hence work went on at a frenzied pace and the building for housing the Auto Exchange was completed 3 months ahead of schedule.

But the speedy work was in vain since the machinery arrived at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, New Bombay, 6 months later. 13 truck loads of machinery were loaded from the port to the site near Goal Maidan.

The machinery were installed, trial runs completed and the Auto Exchange for Ulhasnagar township was started for the public. Dadaji's work in the area of Telecommunication for the city of Ulhasnagar is truly a magnanimous feat indeed.

DADAJI'S ULHASNAGAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Throughout history, an unplanned society or a grouping of people has always lead to chaos. As the community or the society grows in number and strength, planning is required at every stage of its development. Unplanned development leads to misery.

Over the years, Ulhasnagar city has grown in numbers with the influx of various other communities which have blended themselves in the township or city.

Unfortunately, the city or the town-plans have not been able to foresee this growth in time nor to prepare to accommodate these changes which have taken in the population density of the city.

Hence the growth of the city infrastructure had been done to fulfill the needs of the growth in the city as seen at that time without taking into consideration the future developmental stages which the city might go through and to provide for such a time.

The Development Plan which was brought forth received a lot of complaints from the people as it affected them. They had not been consulted, nor had their situation, both residential as well as commercial or business areas protected by it.

Dadaji sought to rectify the situation and consulted various authorities. He apprised the situation faced by the people and put it across to the Government. Most of his viewpoints were taken up by the Government and the people of Ulhasnagar were greatly benifitted by them.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING PUBLIC/PRIVATE TRANSPORT FACILITIES

Any township or city can consider itself blessed if it is well connected by a system of roads. A city or township is doubly blessed if these roads offer a Public Transport System which will benefit the people who live there. People will benefit from a Public Transport System only if there is direct connectivity between far off townships or cities.

The State Transport Bus system is the one which is used for connectivity for people between townships or cities within and at times between States.

The people of Ulhasnagar suffered hardship due to the inconvenient bus schedules. When Dadaji became aware of this problem, he brought the matter to the notice of the S. T. Bus Authorities. After discussions, it was decided that a Time Table which would be more convenient to the people of Ulhasnagar would be formulated.

The S.T. Authroities had started construction for a covered Bus Stand. Dadaji had invited the concerned Minister, Shri. Hasmukh Upadhay and informed him about the whole situation personally. When the steps promised by the S.T. Authorities were taken, people offered their thanks to Dadaji for his efforts.

Dadaji also suggested to the S.T. Authorities that Ulhasnagar should be connected directly with far off places such as Pune, Kholapur, Dholia, Nasik, Nagpur and Shirdi.

Over the years, the traffic density in Ulhasnagar has grown many folds. The Authority of the Government which regulates the transport system is the Regional Transport Office. The office for the same is situated in Thane city and it has to oversee a large territory. Due to the size of the jurisdiction of this office, people who own their own private modes of transport such as two wheelers / four wheelers and those involved in the private transport business face innumerable difficulties. They have to go all the way to Thane City in order to get even small formalities and procedures completed.

The people of Ulhasnagar and the surrounding areas wished for a Regional Transport Office to be set up in Ulhasnagar, since the setting up of such an office would solve a lot of their problems. Dadaji took up this matter with the Authorities and the Government.

The Government agreed that the Post of Kalyan Inspector of Motor Vehicles would be raised to that of Asst. Transport Officer. This brought the people of Ulhasnagar some relief. But Dadaji continues to strive for the opening of a Regional Transport Office at Ulhasnagar which would bring complete relief to the people of Ulhasnagar.

With Dadaji's efforts about 250 new permits for Auto-rickshaws have been issued. This would go a long way to improve the transport situation in Ulhasnagar.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF CEMENT

Ulhasnagar is a city which is growing rapidly. A city such as this sees a continued upward growth in the area of the construction of buildings. Cement is a major product which is required for construction. Without cement, no modern construction can take place.

The distribution of any item which is vital for a particular industry needs to be regulated in order to avoid malpractice by shrewd elements of the society who might bring in a system of monopoly and thereby prove detrimental to the growth of the sector of Industry.

The Government controls the distribution of cement through a Committee consisting of Ex-officials and a Coordinator Thasildar. This committee was struggling to meet the needs and demands of the growing city of Ulhasnagar.

Dadaji was appointed a member to the said committee and his work and sterling qualities helped the committee streamline its activities. His planning and execution skills made a huge difference in the operation of the committee and the distribution of cement began to be done in a smooth and efficient manner.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT MILK DISTRIBUTION SCHEME

The Government had introduced in a lot of the larger cities and townships a system of distribution of milk to the people. The people benefited greatly since milk was now made available to them at reasonable rates. This system was in place in Mumbai city and its surrounding areas. Dadaji had been working in this department from 1956 to 1966. But this scheme had not been introduced in Ulhasnagar and the people were unable to avail the benefits of this scheme.

When Dadaji became aware of the acuteness of this problem, he approached the authorities and worked towards getting this scheme of milk distribution implemented in Ulhasnagar. Upon putting in a lot of efforts, discussing this matter with officials from the Government, Dadaji was finally able to get the system introduced in Ulhasnagar too. The Government opened 39 centres for the distribution of milk in Ulhasnagar. The people of Ulhasnagar were overjoyed and thanked Dadaji for his work in bringing relief to them.

As time went by the demand for more such centers for distribution of milk grew. The people again approached Dadaji and requested him to help them out. Dadaji again strove to bring relief to the people and spoke with the authorities concerned.

Due to Dadaji's hard work, 100 more new Milk Distribution Centre cabins were installed in the various localities of Ulhasnagar. The people of Ulhasnagar with great pleasure thanked Dadaji for his efforts to bring in such new facilities to their city, which they had not enjoyed before.

HEMU KALANI MEMORIAL

All over Maharashtra, the Government had decided to erect suitable memorials in each Taluka for those who have sacrificed their lives for the sake of the Freedom of India.

Dadaji raised the question of Hemu Kalani who has sacrificed his life in Sind, West Pakistan for the sake of freedom of India. Most of the Sind population who had migrated from the Sind Province had settled down in Maharashtra. Ulhasnagar was the biggest Sindhi colony in Maharashtra. Hence Dadaji pleaded that a memorial for Shri Hemu Kalani had to be erected in Ulhasnagar or in Chembur where Shri Hemu Kalani's mother was living. Even after many deputations, a positive response was not in the offing. Dadaji then raised this question on the floor of the Maharashtra State Assembly and discussed this matter in detail for more than half an hour. He convinced the members of the house with his fine and logical way of presentation. During the Partition of India, states such as Punjab and Bengal were split in two and a part of these states remained in Pakistan. Memorials for those freedom fighters from the halves of these states which became a part of Pakistan who had given up their lives during the freedom struggle, were honoured with memorials on the Indian side / part of the states. But Sind was not partitioned and the Sindhis had migrated to India, Ulhasnagar being the largest Sindhi Colony, with Chembur being the second largest Sindhi Colony. Hence, pleaded Dadaji, a memorial for Shri Hemu Kalani should be erected either in Ulhasnagar or in Chembur.

The house agreed upon the discussions made by Dadaji and decided that a big plot would be allotted in Chembur for a suitable memorial for Shri. Hemu Kalani. Along with this, in recognition of the great sacrifice of Shri Hemu Kalani, an amount of Rs.2,000/= per month would be given to Shri Hemu Kalani's mother, as long as she lived. The house also agreed to give medical facilities to her as long as she lived.

SHANTI BHAVAN

After the Partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, Sindhis from Sind, West Pakistan migrated to India, and these people were termed as refugees. They are settled in 34 colonies in various parts of Maharashtra. Some of them had lost their earning male members and become widows. For such widows, the Government of India has opened a separate widows home for widows from all the 34 colonies in Maharashtra. Subsequently, all widows were shifted to Ulhasnagar and housed in Barracks at Ulhasnagar 5 which were reserved for the Widows and Orphans. It was called "Shanti Bhavan".

In the beginning the widows at Shanti Bhavan were given cooked food and all the necessities of life were made available to them. As the time passed, the Government stopped giving them cooked food and they were instead given dole which amounted to Rs. 50/= only per head per month.

When Dadaji became M.L.A., after seeing the miserable conditions of these widows, he met the Minister concerned of Social and Welfare Department of Government of Maharashtra and informed him that Rs. 50/= per head per month was a very meager amount. The Minister concerned agreed with Dadaji and the dole was raised from Rs. 50/= to Rs. 100/= per head per month. As this amount was also not sufficient for widows, Dadaji took up this matter on the floor of the house. He informed all the members of the house about the miserable conditions which existed for the widows at Shanti Bhavan

The house agreed with Dadaji's suggestion and the dole was raised to Rs. 250/= per head per month. At Shanti Bhavan, there were no lights due to non supply of electricity to their rooms. Though a hospital was attached to Shanti Bhavan, there was an inadequate supply of medicines. Dadaji, then approached some social organisations to give food and help the unfortunate widows and orphans. The Varsha Foundation of Bombay, came forward upon Dadaji's request to provide electricity to their rooms. They were also kind enough to give them some food grains.

After a few years, again Dadaji raised the matter of Shanti Bhavan on the floor of the house regarding the price rise of eatable articles which were mounting fast and that there was Ashanti in Shanti Bhavan. The House was kind enough to raise the dole from Rs. 250/= to Rs.500/= per head per month.

In the beginning, there were about 450 widows but subsequently most of them died. Dadaji approached other social institutions also, who came forward and helped these widows to get their grown up daughters married and supply them with other articles of necessity. The government also stopped giving dole to the widows who are now only 35.

RAILWAY OVER BRIDGE – SHAHAD

There were two roads coming into Ulhasnagar from Bombay, Pune and other cities. One of these roads entered Ulhasnagar via Shahad and one from Kalyan. There were Railway Crossings from both the sides and vehicles have to wait sometimes more than ½ hr. People who wanted to catch Mail Trains had to miss the trains because of the closure of the Railway Crossing Gate many times. Dadaji took up this matter with the Government of Maharashtra, and alongwith Shri. Rambhau Malghi, M.P. with Government of India, and with the Railway Department for the necessity of construction of Railway Over Bridges. The Government of India agreed for the proposal of construction of the Railway Over Bridge. After the survey was conducted by Railway Authorities, they stated that there was a feasibility of an R.O.B. at Shahad Station and an amount of Rs.1.00 crore was sanctioned for the construction of the R.O.B. Dadaji then had discussions with the Maharashtra Government for the construction of approach roads from both sides of Kalyan and Ulhasnagar to connect this R.O.B. The Government of Maharashtra replied that since there was a scarcity of funds, the government was not in a position to construct the approach roads at that time. However, later, Dadaji took up this matter on the floor of the house and explained the necessity for the construction of approach roads which will reduce the distance considerably. It would not only save money by reducing the consumption of petrol to a great extent but it would also minimize the use of manpower. The concerned minister agreed in the house and promised that necessary funds would be earmarked in the coming budget and that the construction of approach roads work would be started soon. But it took 5 years to complete the construction work of the approach roads. This was inaugurated by the then P.W.D. Minister of Maharashtra and now the Chief Minister Shri. Vilasrao Deshmukh alongwith Dadaji.

GOVERNMENT GUEST HOUSE

In Maharashtra, every Taluka Head Quarters has a Government Guest House. But in Ulhasnagar Taluka Headquarters, facility for a Government Guest House had not been provided. Dadaji enquired the government emphatically the reason behind Ulhasnagar Taluka Head Quarters not being provided with a Government Guest House when all the Taluka Head Quarters in Maharashtra had a Government Guest House .

The concerned Minister of Public Works Department agreed upon Dadaji's suggestion and plans and estimates were worked out. Provisions for a Government Guest House were made in the Budget and ultimately a Government Guest House was built at the top of the hill at Ulhasnagar 421 005.

ULHASNAGAR AS SUB-DIVISION

It is the practice of the Government of Maharshtra that every Taluka should be a Sub Divisional Head Quarters, from where all the developmental work for all the departments can be carried out smoothly. But Ulhasnagar was not made into a Sub-Division. Dadaji pleaded with the Revenue Department that since Ulhasnagar was a Taluka Headquarter, a Sub-Divisional Office should be opened.

After lengthy discussions, the matter was taken up on the floor of the House and it was decided that Ulhasnagar should be the Head Quarter Subdivision and all the developmental work should be carried out from Ulhasnagar Taluka Head Quarters.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING UPLIFTMENT OF OTHER COLONIES

In the city of Nagpur, many colonies for displaced people had been established by the Government. They were people like those who had been settled at Ulhasnagar, people who had left all their belongings and had migrated to this side of the border during the partition of the nation. Problems which were similar in nature to Ulhasnagar plagued these colonies too and the people residing in these colonies were suffering from them. Regularising work of the so-called unauthorized occupants of land was one of the major problems.

Jerapatka colony, Khamla Camp, Kotia Colony, Anand Square, Mayo Hospital, Sadar Bazar etc. were such colonies inhabited by a majority of Sindhi people who had settled there as refugees. Regularisation work of their residences and commercial premises was one of the major problems faced by these people.

In order to accommodate a Road Widening Plan by Nagpur Municipal Corporation, these commercial premises and residences were to be demolished. Many requests had been made by the people to regularize the areas which fell under the road widening plan, but there was a lot of delays in the regularization work done by the government. In order to implement the road widening plans, notices were issued to the people for their demolition.

The people approached Dadaji at MLA Hostel and related their condition and problems to him. They recounted to him their sagas and struggles to build their shops and residences. They had undergone great pains in order to recreate the semblance of normal lives. If their residences and commercial establishments were demolished, they would again be back to the state of refugees once more. Dadaji's heart went out to these poor and helpless people.

The people of these colonies had organized a felicitation programme for which Mr. Hashu Advani, the Minister for Urban Development, Government of Maharashtra and Dadaji had been invited. More than 2000 Sindhi people were also present.

All of them put up their problems and Mr. Hashu Advani assured them since he was a minister, due to lack of time, he would not be able to devote the time and energy which would be required to tackle such a serious problem, but that Dadaji would be in a much better position to help them out. He also reassured them that he would be near at hand and give any assistance that would be required of him.

Dadaji set his mind to bringing the feeling of security back into the hearts of these unfortunate and vulnerable people. After a few months of working on this issue, meeting the concerned officials repeatedly, discussing this issue with the ministers from Nagpur and with Mr. Hashu Advani, a solution was finally arrived at.

Jerapatka colony, Khamla Camp and Kotia Colony came under the perview of Shri. Uttamrao Patil, the Revenue Minister. Mr. Hashu Advani was approached and he reassured Dadaji that he would take up the issue and solve it.

Regarding the Anand Square shops,Technical High School, Mayo Hospital and Sadar Bazar, Dadaji requested the concerned departments that the width of the Compound wall be reduced and that every shop keeper should be allowed 10 x 10 square feet area.

The concerned department agreed to the proposal put forth by Dadaji and Mr. Hashu Advani talked to the concerned minister about the other colonies.

After a few years, the matter was settled and all the shops were allotted their respective areas along with a compound wall. Thus these issues received permanent solutions.

Listed below are many of the colonies for whom Dadaji worked selflessly and was instrumental in getting their problems solved :-

(1) Kumarnagar Dhule

(2) Gandhi Nagar – Kolhapur.

(3) Dondicha

(4) Jalgaon

(5) Amravati

(6) Akola

(7) Kopri Colony

(8) Pimpri Chinchwada

(9) Amalner

(10) Ghondia , and a few more colonies.

DADAJI'S WORK DURING THE RIOTS AT INDIRA GANDHI CLOTH MARKET, GONDIA

In the year 1978, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India, was arrested. Riots broke out in Gondia and the Cloth Market was burnt down.

The then Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri. Sharad Pawar called upon Dadaji and requested him to visit the cloth market areas in Gondia on behalf of the government. The cloth market belonged to the people of Sindhi community.

Dadaji set out for Gondia the next day and met with the people from the panchayat of the cloth market or the leaders there. He also met the Divisional Commissioner, Shri. Kapoor, the Chief Officer & Commissioner of Gondia, various police officers, the people from Insurance companies and the Collector of Bhandhara. He discussed with them the various options for the rehabilitaion of the people who had lost all their possessions and goods when the fire had burnt down their shops.

Instructions had been given to all the concerned officials by the Government of Maharashtra regarding Dadaji's visit to Gondia and that all the concerned officials were to co-operate with Dadaji.

After detailed discussions, it was decided that the Municipal Council would ask the Government of Maharashtra to give a loan of Rs.25 lakhs to the Municipal Council and that the requisite amount of cement was to be provided. A decision was made to reconstruct the burnt down market with RCC.

The Insurance companies were instructed to pay off the shop keepers whose shops had been insured at an early date.

The Municipal Commissioner and officials from the Law & Order cell assured Dadaji that all the decisions would be implemented with haste. Dadaji stayed in Gondia for two more days and then reported to the Chief Minister the various assurances given by the Gondia Municipal Commissioner. He requested the Chief Minister to grant a special loan to the Gondia Municipal Council. He also requested the Chief Minister to allot cement for the construction of a new market.

After making these requests, Dadaji was in touch with the people of Gondia from time to time, assuring himself that work for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the market was taking place as planned. When the market was finally reconstructed, The Cloth Merchants Association invited Dadaji to inaugurate the new cloth market. Dadaji gladly accepted this honour which was bestowed upon him by his beloved people.

DADAJI'S WORK DURING THE RIOTS AT NASIK

At Nasik Road, some unhappy and unsatisfied people put a garland of shoes on the statue of Babasaheb Ambedkar. Other local people were enraged upon this and soon fighting between groups ensued and riots broke out. Many innocent people came to bear the brunt of this . Shops belonging to innocent people were set on fire and razed to the ground. Most of these shops belonged to people from the Sindhi Community.

The leaders of the Sindhi Panchayat got together and discussed the various problems and decided that only Dadaji was the person who could be of help and that he would definitely come to their assistance. Accordingly, the Sindhi Panchayat sent him a telegram requesting him to kindly come to Nasik and visit the riot-affected areas and bring justice to the innocent people.

Dadaji was moved by this incident and immediately set out for Nasik. Mr. Narain Bharati and Bulchand Sonesar also went with Dadaji and they visited the site. They met the shopkeepers and the innocent people who had been affected by the riots. Dadaji met the Chief Officer of Nasik Municipal Council, Shri Ghansham Talreja and requested his help to sort things out for the people.

Dadaji contacted the people and authorities from the Insurance companies. He requested them to give the people their money which was due to them. But unfortunately only a few of the shops had been insured. Most of them had not been insured and they belonged to poor businessman. Dadaji relentlessly put in more efforts and requested the Government of Maharashtra that those people whose shops had not been insured should be granted loans which will assist in their speedy rehabilitation.

He met with the various Police Officers and discussed the situation very deeply with them. He requested that the culprits should be nabbed and punished as soon as possible so that more such incidences would be prevented from happening in the future.

All the people who were in positions of authority were impressed by Dadaji's deep feelings for the people and were sufficiently motivated. His suggestions and requests were hastily worked upon and implemented. Rehabilitation work for the riot affected people of Nashik started and went ahead at a rapid pace. Dadaji kept in close touch with all those who were concerned and sustained his efforts to help the people.

After the rehabilitation work for the people was completed, Dadaji received praises for his selfless work. He was received by the people with open arms whenever he went there to attend political sessions.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING LAW & ORDER PROBLEMS

With the tremendous commercial and all-round growth in Ulhasnagar which had been fueled due to Dadaji's selfless work, more and more people began to find opportunities in Ulhasnagar. The population of the city grew. With the growth in population density, and in commercial activity, it is but natural for criminal elements to seek easy prey. Incidences of crime in the city began to grow.

Before Dadaji had been elected the Member of the Legislative Assembly, the situation of Law and Order was grave. Incidences of looting and murders occurred often.

While Dadaji was contesting the elections a very ghastly incidence took place which made Dadaji's resolve to tackle this serious problem stronger. A school child was kidnapped and was killed with a knife. When the Police recovered the body, they found it to be covered by more than 20 stab wounds. Dadaji was moved greatly by this incidence.

As soon as he was elected the MLA, Dadaji raised his voice on the floor of the Assembly House to help protect the law and order situation in Ulhasnagar. He sent a lot of complaints and applications to the concerned authorities. He submitted various memorandums and met with various concerned authorities, ministers and even the Chief Minister. He discussed with all these people the situation deeply and raised his concern for the protection of the people.

He requested the then Home Minister Shri. Bhai Vaidya to visit Ulhasnagar city and to appraise the situation himself. When the Home Minister arrived, he made him aware of the situation and arranged meetings with the public to hear their grievances and various problems concerning the law and order situation of Ulhasnagar city.

Dadaji was a member of the Home Dept. Advisory Committee. As a member, he placed many complaints and suggestions for the improvement of the situation. He raised his voice against anti-social elements and the goondas . He brought to the notice of the Home Minister, Shri Bhai Vaidya and impressed upon him that the various actions or measures which were being taken by the police authorities against these anti-social elements were very mild and that these measures were not enough. The charge of Shri Karla, the Thane Superintendent of Police was handed over to Deputy Commissioner of Police and the responsibility of looking after the law and order problems of Ulhasnagar was placed on a Special Superintendent. This change gave the much needed impetus to tackle the law and order problems of Ulhasnagar and brought about good results.

The posts of Sub Inspectors at Shahad and Vithalwadi Police Stations were raised to the posts of Inspectors. Appointments of Deputy Superintendents were made in the place of Circle Inspectors. The staff of various police stations were also increased. These changes ensured that the crime-rates in Ulhasnagar city fell drastically and also dealt with various complaints which needed to be disposed off in a smooth and efficient manner.

Alongwith all the abovementioned steps which Dadaji took, he also paid attention to the various problems which were faced by the Police personnel. With his efforts, he got 214 quarters constructed for the police servants and the same were allotted to them. Dadaji put in a lot of efforts to provide various facilities for the personnel serving the police department so that they would also feel that they were getting their due worth and would perform their legitimate duties and not resort to activities which would border on corruption.

Dadaji has suggested to the government to set up a Liason Committee which will serve as a bridge between the people and the Police Authorities. To get this resolution passed Dadaji has been requesting various people in power and authority in the Government.

Dadaji's resolve to see that one day such a liaison committee would be set up and would help both the people of Ulhasnagar as well as the Police Department still remains strong.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING SINDHI CULTURE

The people from Sindh Province of erstwhile United India left their homes and lands in the search of a new beginning during partition. In India, they settled in various parts of the country. They had left their rich heritage and literature behind when they fled to India.

For a people who were leading difficult lives, upholding their rich and unique literature, culture and traditions might have been the last thoughts on their minds. Art, culture, drama, traditions, culture etc. have always flourished only in those communities or people who were economically well settled.

Dadaji realised that in order to uphold and upkeep the traditions, culture and literature of the Sindhi people, government help would be required. He also observed that in various other regions such as Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi where the Sindhi people had settled in majority, they had been able to get Sindhi Sahitya Academy established through their respective governments which encouraged the growth of the Sindhi literature and culture.

He raised this important issue with the Government of Maharashtra. He pointed out that in Maharashtra alone, there were about 25 lakhs of Sindhi people who had migrated from the Sindh Province during partition. He stressed the need for a Sindhi Sahitya Academy to be formed in Maharashtra State on the same lines as those of the Hindi Sahitya Academy.

Dadaji met with many concerned officials, ministers and discussed with them the need for establishing a Sindhi Sahitya

Academy. He raised this point on the floor of the house and called for an attention motion / cut motion. Subsequently, he met with the Chief Minister during the winter session of the house at Nagpur, in his chamber and explained the importance of establishing a Sindhi Sahitya Academy.

The Chief Minister instructed his personal secretary to look into the matter. Finally, a date was fixed and Dadaji met with the Chief Minister again. The Chief Minister signed a file and handed it over to Dadaji with his consent for the establishment of a Sindhi Sahitya Academy in Maharashtra. Rupees 2 Lakhs was earmarked for the promotion of Sindhi Literature in the beginning.

There had been other organizations who had wanted to establish something which was similar to Sindhi Sahitya Academy, but Dadaji, because of his concern for the welfare of Sindhi Culture, tradition and literature succeeded in his efforts. The Sindhi Sahitya Academy comprised of eminent people such as Shri Karit Babani, Shri Gobind Malhi, Shri Narain Bharti, Shri Baldev Gajra, Dadaji and a few others.

RECOGNITION OF O.B.C. IN SINDHI COMMUNITY

Before the partition of India, facilities such as being given priority for appointment in Government services and promotions were being enjoyed by Sindhi people belonging to various categories such as Jagiasi, Udasi, Bawa, Thakur, Labana, Bhatt, Khatri and Sonar who were residing in Sind Province.

After partition, and the migration of Sindhis to India, people belonging to the various above mentioned categories were not given recognition.

Dadaji raised this matter in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and to support his points, he produced a Sind Gazzette of 1935. He pleaded that before 1935, Sind was a part of the then Bombay Province. The then Bombay Province is now known as Maharashtra State. Hence whatever facilities which people belonging to those OBC categories had been receiving before the partition, in Sind, should be given in present day Maharashtra to people belonging to these categories.

The concerned Minister of Social and Welfare, had agreed to Dadaji's suggestions and assured that a list of people belonging to OBC categories will be recommended to the Government of India for recognition. However, from the abovementioned OBC Category List, only Sonars were given recognition. Recognition for the people falling in various other castes on the list of recommendation for OBC recognition has been kept for the consideration of the Government of India.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING IMPROVEMENT OF SLUM AREAS

The city of Ulhasnagar, even though growing prosperous day by day, nevertheless contains many slum areas in some of its localities. The people residing in these areas experience a lot of difficulties. These slum areas are not provided by the Municipal government with the normal basic amenities which are given to other localities. Drinking water, Electricity, sewage system, roads or road lights etc. are not provided to these areas. Due to unsanitary conditions, there are risks of disease outbreaks.

Dadaji felt deeply for these people and tried to bring about meaningful changes in their lives. He discussed these points and problems with the Municipal Authorities and Social Workers and brought about a lot of improvements in the lives of people residing in such slum areas. He got Rs. 70 Lakhs sanctioned from the Government for Slum Improvement Board. He also paid Rs. 30 Lakhs from the M.L.A. Fund also.

DADAJI'S WORK REGARDING CO-ORDINATION IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIES

The city of Ulhasnagar thrives because of the various industries which flourish there. There are small scale or Cottage Industries as well as Large scale Industries such as Century Rayon and Amar Dye.

During Dadaji's tenure as the member of the Legislative Assembly, the production in these industries had improved. Due to this increase in production, prosperity had arrived in a measured way and the economic position of the people belong to the labour class also improved.

Dadaji received full co-operation from the people belonging to the Industrialist class as well as people belonging to the labour class. Dadaji always believed that both of these classes of society have to go hand in hand in order to bring about growth and economic prosperity to society. Whenever any difficulties or problems arose between both these classes which threatened the continuity of work, Dadaji personally intervened, spoke with the leaders from both sides, negotiated with them and brought about peaceful settlements.

In Ulhasnagar, there were more than 7000 Home / Cottage Industries. People were working in very difficult conditions such as lack of space, lack of good lighting, clean surroundings etc. Dadaji wanted to improve their lot.

Dadaji formulated a plan for the construction of Mini Industrial Sheds and met the concerned authorities in order to bring relief to the poor but industrious and hard working people. With this in mind, he invited the Assistant Director of Town Planning and the Assistant Director of B.M.R.D. to visit Ulhasnagar. After their visit he submitted a plan for the procurement of Bank loans, Electricity, Water and telephone facilities.

DADAJI'S M.L.A. OFFICE

Dadaji always felt that any person who has become the elected representative of the people needs to be in touch with the people who fall within the area of representation. But unfortunately, in many cases, the elected representatives either forget the people soon after they are elected, or they become deeply involved in the politics of managing their positions, that they ultimately become distant from the same people who had elected them.

Dadaji proved to be very different from the normal politicians one finds in all parts of the world. People who wanted to approach Dadaji directly with their problems in order to receive solutions, advice or suggestions from him, had to either wait outside the Assembly house or visit him at his residence. He realized the difficulty that people faced in trying to approach him.

Accordingly, he decided to begin a unique office which would allow the beloved people direct access to him and take more advantage of his services. On 1st May, 1978, he started this unique office at 1st floor, Laxmi Market, Ulhasnagar – 3. This office remains open even today from 10 AM to 8 PM.

Dadaji remains present in this office everyday during the evenings from 5 PM to 7 PM to help the people find solutions to their problems. The only days which he is not present are those when he had to attend political / governmental sessions or those days when he is out of the city.

Even to this day, long after Dadaji completed his tenures as the MLA of Ulhasnagar, he is ever present in this office during the evenings. He patiently listens to the number of people who visit him every day with their grievances and gives them advice, suggestions or many a time takes up their cause and works towards providing a solution for them.

His selfless work and humble demeanor has made Dadaji the most loved person of Ulhasnagar and all its surrounding areas.

DADAJI'S OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WORK

Apart from all the services mentioned previously, Dadaji as been giving a lot of other services to people, quietly and nassuming as ever.

He had been issuing more than 10 caste certificates daily. Certifications such as those pertaining to the supply of water, lectricity and attestations of various documents etc. were egularly issued by him on a daily basis. After getting the ermission from the government to be the signing authority for he issual of passports, Dadaji has placed his signature on more han 1000 passport forms.

All these additional services proved to be very beneficial or the people of Ulhasnagar. They were able to get their work one more speedily and with less delays.

Dadaji has been appointed to many committees and hence e has to allocate time to attend the meetings conducted in each f them. The committees constituted by the Government of Maharashtra in which Dadaji has been appointed are :-

(1) Public Accounts Committee
(2) Home Department Advisory Committee
(3) Chairman, Ulhasnagar Taluka for the Distribution of Cement Committee
(4) Chairman for Thane District for Industries and Mines Committee.
(5) Member of D.P.D.C.
(6) Member of Screening Committee
(7) Jail Advisory Committee
(8) A member of the Advisory Committee for the Backward Classes.

(9) Public Undertaking Committee.
(10) Assurance Committee.

Apart from these, Dadaji has to co-ordinate for various Government and Mini-Government Institutions.

A list of some of the varied services which Dadaji has given between 1978 to 1990 (A period of just more than 12 years) for the people is given below and this will give an idea of the magnitude of his work:-

(1) Questions raised in the Assembly - 1,115
(2) Correspondence / Letters sent to Important departments and replies - 23,722
(3) Passport Forms and correspondence - 7,355
(4) Freeship forms for School Children - 20,00,000
(5) Certificates for Backward classes and Character certificates - 1,720

The above mentioned numbers are an indication of the amount of work Dadaji has done in more than just 12 years. Dadaji has been an MLA for about 12 years. He has continued to do social welfare services for more 12 years after 1990 and is going on as strong as ever.

No amount of words can express the wonderful works of Dadaji, but the smiles on the faces of the people of Ulhasnagar, the strength of security which Dadaji gave to their minds and the joy he gave to their hearts will remain as testimony to the words written in this book.

"Gratitude is the memory of heart"

– J. B. Massieu in "Letter"

Dadaji's lifetime work reminds me of Thomas Jefferson's vords and R.H. Stoddard's words which I am reproducing elow :-

"The whole of government consists in the art of being onest" - Thomas Jefferson in "Works"

"One of the people! Born to be

Their curious epitome;

To share , yet rise above

Their shifting hate and love". -R. H. Stoddard

Long live Dadaji - a true patriot, a true man of the nasses, and may the years bring him happiness unlimited…

For the GOOD of EDUCATION

FOR THE GOOD OF EDUCATION

Education is what survives when what happens has been learnt has been forgotten. Knowledge is a process of piling up facts. Wisdom lies in simplification.

Knowledge has always been given a high status in the minds of people the world over throughout the ages. Knowledge is power. Knowledge gives a person the power of discrimination, to determine what is right from wrong. I had mentioned earlier that Knowledge or learning is the greatest gift which one human being can give to another. One has to learn to learn.

The earth is round or spherical in shape, it rotates around the sun, and revolves around itself. This is common knowledge now. But five hundred years ago, the very same western civilization, which is so powerful industrially and economically, was not aware of these. Once this knowledge was disbursed amongst the people by the thinkers and the scientists of that age, the thinkers were able to fertilize the minds of brave young men of action. These young men, armed with knowledge, were in a position to set out on expeditions into territories which had not been travelled by the western man, and were able to cross the great oceans and make discoveries which changed the world for ever.

The theory of gravity, the theory of floatation and numerous other theories gave the power to bright minds and they were able to fuel the growth of industry and economics. New machines, new modes of transport, electricity, construction of better buildings and roads, railways, air transport, appliances which made life easier and many more were made possible only after knowledge was shared. This knowledge in turn evoked newer, better ideas and thus a sort of chain reaction set in. New branches of knowledge were developed from established facts, scientists studied them, propounded new theories and the standards of living of the people became better.

The more the number of literate people, better will be the standards of living eventually.

Fortune knocks once at every man's gate. Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani knew this fact all along and seeing the condition and the plight of the people of Ulhasnagar, wanted to do something for them.

Ulhasnagar did not boast of a large number of schools. The number of children of the school going age were more than the seats which could be provided for them in the schools in Ulhasnagar. Hence a large number of parents had to either send them to far away schools (provided they were able to get admission) or to allow them to grow up illiterate.

This was one of the major problems of Ulhasnagar in the 50's and 60's. If it had been left like that, other allied problems such as rise in unemployment, social unrest, rise in crime rate could have been the result at a later date. Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani thought deeply over this problem. He called upon and discussed it with a few close and like-minded friends.

Backed only by his strong will to help the people and a steely determination to set the problem right, Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani along with his friends decided to enter the field of EDUCATION.

Every long journey by a person begins with a small step. For the journey to be completed, more such steps have to be taken, and all of these in the same direction. This is common knowledge .

To complete a long journey, one needs perseverance, tenacity, a steely will but yet, at the same time, one must possess a flexible mind too. Only a person with a flexible mind and a sharp intellect would be able to judge or see the land ahead or the area to be journeyed through. And if he / she meets obstacles in the path, he / she should have sufficient mental faculties to be able to go around them or surmount them. Many a long journey ended half-way through due to insufficient reserves of the above mentioned qualities.

If a journey is made by a group of people, then all of them who are taking part in it need to possess such qualities. And above all, there has to be present in such a group, one person who stands tall and who overshadows all of them. A group needs a leader who will take all of them through the ourney. Such a person only can be a true leader.

This person who acts as the leader of such a group must possess all the above-mentioned qualities and along-with them, he / she should have leadership qualities.

A good leader would be one who had been a good follower himself. Only when he/she had been a follower, would he/she be in a position to understand the followers. The leader should be one who can judge the strengths and weakness of the entire group. Having assessed the strengths and weakness he/she should be able to utilize the strengths to the maximum advantage of the group and with that strength itself, tackle the weakness within the group, eliminating them altogether or at least reducing them to such a level that the journey can be continued with halts or delays.

Leaders can be broadly classified into three broad types

One who drives the people ahead of him through sheer strength or persuasiveness.

One who goes ahead and lets others follow him in his footsteps.

One who goes along with the group, neither leading from the front nor persuading the group from behind , but walks along with them as just another ordinary member of the group.

If a leader uses any of the above-mentioned ways of leading the group, and only one of them throughout the journey, then even though he/she may be successful in traveling some distance, the journey might be in all probability only half-finished.

A truly successful leader is one who is able to complete the journey which was started by the group. And such a successful leader would be one would be a good juggler and one who has thorough knowledge in the use all three methods of leadership, namely :- persuasiveness, leading from the front and walking along with the group.

"Modesty is the beginning of knowledge"

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was a HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL LEADER. Possessing qualities such as perseverance, tenacity, a steely will.He also possessed, at the same time, a flexible mind and a sharp intellect too.

Because of his sharp intellect he was able to plan every stage of the journey. Proper planning is very essential before any task can be undertaken. For proper planning, one must study all the pros and cons before attempting a task, or in other words, a proper ground-work study should be under-taken before any task is attempted.

This kind of systematic study held him in good stead in the innumerable and difficult tasks he undertook for the sake of his fellowmen through-out his life. Many an instance of this quality in him, his meticulous study of the lay of the land, or the path ahead can be seen at various stages of his life presented in this book.

He was prepared mentally for most of the eventualities well before he met them. Any obstacles or hindrances at the beginning of each social task were removed before attempting them. To this end, he was willing to wait for a little bit longer before undertaking something. This reveals his power of foresightedness and his quality of being able to eliminate weaknesses wherever they are present, even if they are at the beginning of a journey or social task.

He was a person who was able to judge the strengths and weaknesses of the people who worked with him. He utilized the strengths of his team and minimized their weaknesses to such a level that he was able to fulfill each and every task he undertook.

He was a person who would lead from the front or lead by example whenever the situation required. This could be illustrated by means of an incident which happened during an expansion program of a school buildings where he himself carried “ghamelas” or cement trays.

He always expresses "Do not tell me how hard you work. Tell me how much you have got done !"

When the situation required him to persuade or push his team, he never failed to do so. Incidences where he had to persuade his team in order to complete some set task are also many, and at times he had not flinched from even pulling up his near and dear team-mates for some slackness or shortfalls in the quality of work they had exhibited. He always tried to remain worthy of the education received and above all to keep his spirit open and awake.

When the situation required him to walk along with the others of his team in the long journey, he had done so, unstintingly. Being a man of compassion, he understands all his people, followers and team-mates very well. He always has a good ear to listen to all the problems of his people, and being tender hearted also, he is able to empathize with their situations. Because of this kind nature, he is being very loved by one and all throughout his life. Many incidences of his compassion and kind-heartedness can be recounted. When he was hospitalized after a massive heart-attack in the year 1989, the true love of the people was clearly manifested when they all prayed as a single huge family for his early recovery and long life.

He was able to juggle or use alternatively the three basic styles of leadership abilities throughout his life as and when the situation so required him to do. This skill of has held him in good stead throughout his life and continues to do so even today.

The people of Ulhasnagar were fortunate to recognize this skill because it was Shri Sitaldas Harchandani who brought about a revolution in the field of EDUCATION in Ulhasnagar.

It was only when Shri Sitaldas Harchandani and his like-minded friends and team-members entered the field of EDUCATION, that Ulhasnagar woke up from a long self-subjected slumber which had lasted many centuries.

JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani started the NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR in the year 1974. There were only sixty students, when the school started. A kind and able lady, Mrs.Asha Nagrani was the Headmistress or the teacher-in-charge.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani left no stones unturned in his efforts to see that this school was successful in its mission – to give proper education to its students, to inculcate good values and culture in them.

He appointed capable staff teachers who were able to give justice to his vision. The teaching at NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR was of excellent standards and its fame and popularity grew. The beloved public of Ulhasnagar know JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL as Shri Sitaldas's School.

India is a country of people belonging to different regions, where each region has its own language, culture, traditional value, life style, food habits or cuisines and at times even different religion or Sect. Hence it is called a Multi-cultural, Multi-lingual, Multi-ethnic country. At the same time a common thread runs through all of them, and that is that they belong to a single political entity called a single nation.

For a people who had been forced to leave their ancestral lands, it was but natural that they would prefer to settle close to each other in camps spread through Maharashtra State and elsewhere. Ulhasnagar consisted of five such camps, populated mostly by people from the Sindh Province of the erstwhile Undivided India.

In Ulhasnagar, the language spoken by the majority of the people living there in the five camps was Sindhi. So it is but natural that the children who are born and brought up in such a surrounding would be able to understand and learn more in the Sindhi Language since they are constantly under its influence. The sounds of early child-hood for such a child would be the Sindhi Language.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of this truth and felt hat if the Medium of Education was Sindhi, it would benefit the children of Ulhasnagar more in their journey of Knowledge. Hence the NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR, started by Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani in 1974 had Sindhi Language as its main Medium of Education.

All the staff members in the school were well trained, competent and were able to carry out their responsibilities in a manner befitting the aims with which the school was started. There was no fear amongst them and it was a feeling of love which permeated the atmosphere of the school as they collectively worked together like a big happy family.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was always ready and near at hand to listen to any problem or situation and guide them owards a solution. Problems however small or big, Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani had a remedy for them. Whenever it was required by him he never hesitated to work amongst them. Felicitations and accolades were showered on him by the people of Ulhasnagar for his wonderful work.

If words are not followed up by deeds, they will remain ust words within the pages of a dusty book or entrapped within a mind. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was as much a "MAN

OF ACTION" as he was a "MAN OF NOBLE IDEAS AND THOUGHT."

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's school, NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR, was a boon for the people of Ulhasnagar. The children of Ulhasnagar were now able to gain the tools with which they would be able to construct their futures. Great minds could now be nurtured in the garden of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR with the fertilizer of True Education. The people were happy and showered their blessings on Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani observed the functioning of the school like a careful parent over his/her off-spring, guiding it, giving a helping hand whenever it was required, giving advice and solace to the management.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of the fact that even though it was easy for the child to gain education in its Mother-tongue, for true competitive strength of the child to be developed, it needed an impetus or momentum in the language which is used by the larger section of the world.

The British, during their presence of more than 250 years in India had left an indelible mark on the way of life in the sub-continent. There was a time when it was said "The sun never sets on the British Empire" – its reach was so far and wide, its colonies spread all over the world. English as a language of global communication became an irrefutable act. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of this fact. Leadership, like swimming cannot be learned by reading about it.

Communication is the first step in the exchange of information, which leads to exchange of services, thereby encouraging mutual growth of two or more entities in a Material World or a world of Commerce. Language is the tool for communication. The English Language is the language of communication which is widely used in the world.

If a child of Ulhasnagar needed to engage his/her talents with the people of the world at large, the English Language as a tool is very necessary. Nothing in the world is as powerful as a idea whose time has come.

So the English Language as an important tool which will lead the people of Ulhasnagar towards prosperity was an idea which Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of. He decided to work on it. After observing the working or functioning of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR for 4 years, and satisfying himself that he and his like-minded friends and associaties would be able to tackle a larger task, he decided to start English Medium Education.

In the year 1978, the English Medium of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR was started with admissions for the K.G. classes. Fifty students enrolled in the school. The school began its journey towards dispelling Knowledge which was useful in many ways - educationally or academically which was the main hrust, but at the same time, knowledge which would help instill n the child, the various noble values such as cultural, moral and social values.

Mrs. Sunanda Narurkar extended her support for this ighteous effort and the strength of the school began to increase. The combined efforts of Mrs. Narurkar and Mrs. Nagrani produced remarkable results. Their devotion to their work saw o it that the number of students enrolling in the school kept increasing. The Primary section of the English Medium was started in the year 1980. The English Medium Secondary Classes were started in the year 1986. The first batch of the English Medium passed out from Std. X in the year 1988-89.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was ever ready to help out whenever his assistance was needed. The fame of the school spread far and wide. People all over the state of Maharashtra became aware of its stellar qualities.

Admission for children to the school was based on 'Merit Basis'. The long queues of people waiting anxiously during the period of admission to the school was proof of the reputation and popularity it was able to gain within a short span of time.

Because the number of people wanting their children to be admitted into NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR was more than the capacity of the classes, new divisions were added. The Sindhi Medium classes were extended into two divisions per class or standard. The English Medium classes were expanded into two or three divisions per class. And yet the demand for admission into the school kept gaining steadily.

People who had influential contacts in society began to bring in recommendation letters or notes from well-known dignitaries and people of high social repute with the hope of getting their children admitted. Even though the pressure to give in to such practices was high, Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani did not step out of his principled path .

NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR still maintained its ethical outlook and its method of admitting students – 'Merit Basis'. Money, influence or the blatant flaunting of power by some of the parents did not deter Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani from giving in to such immoral demands. All that which was expected from the parents was that they should give proper thought and focus to the good upbringing of their offspring. To progress on right lines, one must analyse, and be aware of one's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani did not expect great monetary rewards because of this contribution of his in the field of learning. Nor did he have any vested interest in making the school an admired one. His sole aim was to help the children gain a firm footing in the world with the help of a good education. And to this end he worked stead-fastly, untiring in his efforts and always with a cheerful smile.

The following is an extract from "MY AIM" written by Mr. G.L. Banks and fits Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's drive to help the down-trodden.

"I LIVE FOR THOSE WHO LOVE ME, FOR THOSE WHO KNOW ME TRUE;

For the heaven that smiles above me , and awaits my spirit too;

For the cause that lacks assistance , for the wrong that needs resistance,

For the future in the distance , and the good that I can do.

- G. L. Banks , 'MY AIM'"

Recognition from the people for his good work came immediately and was seen in the ever-growing number of admissions and the steady growth of its status in comparison to the schools around it in Ulhasnagar and surrounding areas.

The children of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR grew up to possess such good qualities which the vedic student had been seeking from God and became a boon for the Ulhasnagar township. In later years they would become Doctors, Lawyers, Teachers, Bankers, Social workers, Industrialists, Businessmen, Architects, Scientists and great people in their own rights and because of the good-work contributed by them to the Ulhasnagar township.

Any teacher who is dedicated to the spirit of teaching and passing on knowledge to his/her students is not interested in any monetary reward. The growth and well-being of the student and the later good contributions by the student to society would be reward enough to such a teacher. The teachers of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR were those who did not work for the self but for the good of society. They had a living example and inspiration to guide them in their efforts in the form of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani.

Edwin Markham, in his tribute to ABRAHAM LINCOLN, wrote the following line which suits Mr.Sitaldas Harchandani's character :-

"Here was a man to hold against the world,

A man to match the mountains and the sea.

****

The colour of the ground was in him, the red earth,

The smack and tang of elemental things:

The rectitude and patience of the cliff,

The goodwill of the rain that loves the leaves,

****

The pity of the snow that hides all scars.

-Edwin Markham, 'LINCLON, THE MAN OF THE PEOPLE' "

In 1978, just four years since its commencement, the Sindhi Primary School joined the elite group of Government recognized schools. The Primary school consisted of classes from Standards I to VII. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani forged ahead unrelentingly, working hard to maintain and further uplift the good name and reputation gained by the school.

The Sindhi Secondary School was started as the children grew up. This school consisted of classes from Standards VIII to X. The Sindhi Secondary School also became a Government recognized school in the year 1986. There were two divisions in each class.

A proud moment in the history of the school came in March of the year 1986 when its first batch of 42 students appeared for the S.S.C. Examination. All the hard-work and self-less efforts of the teachers and Mr. Harchandani bore ripe fruits when 90% of the students who had appeared in the Examination passed out with flying colours. No other award or reward could have held greater significance in their hearts at that moment. The welfare and sustained growth of the students had always been upper-most in their minds through-out the years from 1974.

The year 1986 provided more good news to the people of Ulhasnagar. The Government gave its recognition to all the classes of the Sindhi Primary School, Sindhi Secondary School and the English Primary School.

The English Medium School also developed its Secondary Section. There were 3 or 4 divisions in each class. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani and his team of dedicated teachers and school workers reached another milestone in their Educational efforts three years later. In March of the year 1988-89, students appeared for the S.S.C. Examination in the English Medium and added more hues to the rainbow created by Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani and his team.

The government recognized the role and contribution of the Sindhi Medium Primary School and the Sindhi Medium Secondary School to the community of Ulhasnagar and began to grant aid to the schools in the year 1989.

The results of students passing out in the S.S.C. Examinations for both the Sindhi and the English Medium schools always remained more than 80% and the fame and popularity of the schools widened.

"It is a man-making education all around that we want. It is man-making theories that we want. And here is the test of truth : Anything that makes you weak physically, intellectually and spiritually, reject as poison; there is no life in it, it cannot be true.............Men, men – these are wanted : everything else will be ready; but strong, vigorous, believing young men, sincere to the back-bone are wanted. A hundred such and the world becomes revolutionized."

-Extract from "My Plan of Campaign" by Swami Vivekananda

Swami Vivekanada thundered the above stirring words a hundred years ago. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani put those words into practice.

NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR believed in an all-round MAN-MAKING Education, not Education which would just give intellectual or academic prowess. Extra-curricular activities were given their own importance and all the students were encouraged to participate in them.

'ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES A DULL BOY' and 'A HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY' are very common sayings, uttered off-hand by many people. Not wanting them to remain as just sayings Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani and his team worked to give the students of NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR an over-all development and to provide them with a complete and strong personality (inclusive of all the four facets of a Complete Personality -the Physical Personality, the Mental Personality, the Intellectual Personality and the Spiritual Personality).

Students from NAVJEEVAN VIDYA MANDIR participated in various kinds of Extra-curricular activities both with-in and inter-school events and excelled in all of them as well.

In 1985, a new building was constructed for Navjeevan Vidya Mandir which was three storied. It had 7 class-rooms in each floor and later further additions were made to the building. The name of the school was changed from Navjeevan Vidya

Mandir to JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL. An auditorium was built on the ground and two more floors with three class-rooms were constructed to the school. As of the year 2000, the strength of the school consisted of 3,500 students.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was aware of the fact that facilities for higher education in Ulhasnagar township was in short supply. Accordingly, he applied consistently to the Government for allotment of land in which an institution for higher education can be established.

The Government finally allotted 3000 sq. yards of land at O.T.Section, Ulhasnagar-3 for the higher education of the students of JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL. But Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani had to face more obstacles placed on his way.

An Education society, SATYADEO by name went to the High Court and appealed for the allotment of half of the plot to them. The matter was debated in the High Court for eight and half years and Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani attended court personally for more than sixty times. Such was the sheer grit and determination of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani to uphold the right values and fight for what was morally correct.

The High Court finally, and may I say so, justly, dismissed the petition of SATYADEO, upholding the plot granted to Navjeevan Circle Trust. The goal is to establish and Engineering College to meet the demand of such a facility in Ulhasnagar. SATYADEO EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY has taken the matter to the Supreme Court. Some more time may pass by, a few more legal battles may have to be fought in the courts of law, but ultimately, truth and justice shall prevail !

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's contribution in the field of Education has been irrefutably immense. His ever alert mind was always on the look-out for solutions to help the poor, the down-trodden and people without hope.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB

A tragedy occurred at Shahad Railway Station which would prove to be a foundation-stone in the history of Education in Ulhasnagar. A deaf child met with an accident near Shahad Railway Station and was killed by a train. Even though the train alerted a warning to the unfortunate child, he was unable to hear it. The deaf child was on his way to his special school for the Hearing Impaired at Dombivli when this tragedy struck his life, obliterating his future within a matter of seconds. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani heard of this incident and it struck a cord in his tender heart. His sympathetic spirit pondered over the misfortune of the deaf child and Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani wanted to do something to help the deaf and dumb children in his own way. Whenever Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's heart cried out because of people's sufferings, his mind resolved to help end the sufferings.

The lines which Mr. Langston Hughes wrote in "MY PEOPLE" which I am reproducing below might have been the feelings which Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani entertained in his heart through-out more than 45 long years of his social work.

The night is beautiful

So the faces of my people.

The stars are beautiful

So the eyes of my people.

Beautiful also is the sun.

Beautiful also are the souls of my people.

Langston Hughes, "MY PEOPLE"

Whenever Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's heart resolved to help out a section of the people, and if the right solution was not near at hand, his ever alert mind and intellect would await an opening by which even the most difficult of problems might find a solution.

Once Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was traveling by train to Jalgaon. He had been requested to go there and provide his assistance to solve some problems faced by the people from the Sindhi Colony there. During the journey, he met a person called Mr. Deshmukh and both exchanged introductions. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was an MLA at that time and Mr. Deshmukh was the head of a school for deaf children in Jalgaon. Both of them began discussing matters concerning their lives. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani remembered the tragedy which had occurred at Shahad Railway station and was very much interested in gaining more knowledge and details regarding the functioning of the school for the deaf in Jalgaon. Mr. Deshmukh explained the various details Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani wanted to know about the school. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was impressed.

The deaf student had died in Shahad Railway station because was unable to hear the warnings made by the train. If there was a special school nearer to Shahad, the deaf and dumb children of the surrounding areas need not travel far in order to obtain an education. Hence if there was a special school in Ulhasnagar or a nearby area, the associated risks of traveling far by deaf and dumb children could be eliminated. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani resolved to open a school for the deaf and dumb in Ulhasnagar.

Once Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was able to arrive at the solution for any problem, being the great leader that he is, he worked in a systematic way in order to make the solution a practically viable one.

For any problem to be solved, all aspects of the problem needs to be studied. One cannot just barge blindly ahead, trusting Lady Luck for a timely and effective solution. After systematic study, the solution which has been arrived at in theory can be made practical, only with a concrete plan of work.

There is an old saying regarding taking up some work :

"PLAN OUT YOUR WORK.

WORK OUT YOUR PLAN.

REVIEW IT FROM TIME TO TIME.

ADJUST THE PLAN TO FIT CHANGING SITUATIONS"

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani did just that.

Upon returning to Ulhasnagar from Jalgaon , Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was well equipped with knowledge to deal with the problem of providing an effective solution to the deaf and dumb children of Ulhasnagar.

He discussed the entire matter in detail with his friends and colleagues in the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST. A decision to conduct a survey in order to estimate the number of deaf and dumb students who would benefit from the establishment of a new special school for them in Ulhasnagar was taken.

The results of the survey showed that there were more than five hundred deaf and dumb children in Ulhasnagar. It also revealed that there was a Government certified school for the deaf at Shanti Bhavan, Ulhasnagar 5. This school was faced with a shortage of schooling facility and faculty.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani discussed these findings with the members of the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST. It was decided that the establishment of a new school for the deaf and dumb should be deferred until more such special schools could be visited and appropriate studies are undertaken.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani visited five more schools in all. Out of the schools he visited, one was at Napean Sea Road, another was at Juhu – both in Mumbai. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani wanted to see if other cities and states had different methods of functioning, and accordingly, he travelled to Nagpur where he visited one of them. He even went all the way to Hyderabad to visit two special schools there.

This extensive survey helped Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani and he NAV JEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST to assess the various requirements and facilities that such a school should have at the ime of its establishment. It also made them aware of the various facts and figures that would be required to run such a school.

Upon deliberating the findings of the all-embracing survey, a decision to establish a special school in Ulhasnagar for the Deaf and Dumb was taken by the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST.

For a good cause, once the word gets around, monetary contributions come in abundance. There was sufficient space available in the existing school building and with a few modifications, it was made ready for the new school. Since this school was meant for special students, all the facilities in the classrooms, the furniture and fixtures needed to be special. Even the staff who were to handle the children needed to be those with specialized training.

The Napean sea Road School was taken as a guideline and accordingly, various facilities such as Group Hearing Aid, Amplifiers, Speech Trainers, Audio-visual equipments were all provided. At the time of establishment, the school had four class-rooms with one well equipped Speech room. In this Speech Room, qualified Audiologists and Speech Therapists would assess the loss of hearing and give suitable training according to the Child's capacity to speak. The Observation Room of the school was centrally air-conditioned as per the need of such a training.

The then Governor of Maharashtra, Mr. O.P. Mehra readily accepted the invitation to inaugurate the school. He was joined enthusiastically by his wife Mrs. Satyavati Mehra. The others who were present during the opening ceremony were all from the cream of society. Top officials, Police Commissioners, Late Shri Hashu Advani, Shri Nakul Patil, Shri Nari Gurhasani, M.L.A.s and many more dignitaries attended the ceremony and supported Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani in his Herculean efforts. People from far and wide attended it and complimented Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani.

The Kishanchand Chellaram Trust donated Rs.5,00,000/= (Rupees Five Lakhs) for the school to be named after the trust. Thus the KISHANCHAND CHELLARAM SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB came into existence. Operating such a special school was not an easy task. The school started with an initial strength of forty students. More number of children needed to be admitted and the waiting list of students grew bigger than the list of children who were benefiting from the school. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani put in more efforts and with his shining leadership qualities, was able to manage the school during its teething days. Finally, the Government recognized the school and Grant-in-aid also followed. Forty more special children were able to get admission.

The expenses crossed Rs.1 lakh (Rs.1,00,000/=) every year on 40 students right from the time of inception of the school. The students were given break-fast during the early years of the school, but this good work had to be stopped due to the unaffordable expenditure. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's prowess as a Financial Manager came to the fore at this time of crisis.

A few lines reproduced below from "Handling Synne" written by Robert Mannying seem be a perfect way to describe Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's method of organizing and his way of handling crisis-like situations :-

He that will not when he may,

He shall not when he will.

-Robert Mannying , "HANDLING SYNNE (1303)

An application was made for further sanction of grant for a hundred more students. At the same time, charity shows were organized to raise funds for this noble cause. The school participated in cultural programmes, seminars, and sports – not just in the District Level, but also at the State Level.

Many Voluntary organizations were approached ,and they willingly helped out with financial aid. Voluntary organizations such as Lions, Rotary etc. recognized the valiant efforts of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani and the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST which he headed.

At present there are 150 students. Of these, 90 students receive the grant from the Government. The rest of the 60 students expenses are being met by the trust.

Socially highly-placed dignitaries such as Secretaries, Commissioners, Collectors, Government Officials, and Ministers visited the school from time to time, appreciating the efforts of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani.

The KISHANCHAND CHELLARAM SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB had a strength of 150 students as of the year 2000. Out of these, the expenses for 100 students were taken care of by grants, and the remaining 50 of the students expenses were borne by the Navjeevan Circle Trust. Plans for expansion of the school are going on. They shall surely become a reality in the near future. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani had assured the parents and the guardians of the Deaf and Dumb students, that the school would try its level best to make the children self-reliant. This assurance or promise was fulfilled when 40 students appeared for the S.S.C. exams and came out with flying colours. Many of the students who have passed out of KISHANCHAND CHELLARAM SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB have gained useful employment. They are self-reliant and have become successful contributors to society in their own ways.

SAI BABA SCHOOL
FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was also active politically during all these years of social work and work in the field of Education. During one of his M.L.A. election campaigns, in the year 1985, Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was accosted by a lady who was the mother of a mentally retarded girl. This lady was aware of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's efforts to ease the sorrows of the Deaf and Dumb children of Ulhasnagar and about the special school in Ulhasnagar which has become a reality solely due to Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's hard work.

This lady urged Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani to open a special school for the mentally retarded or for those 'Children of a Lesser God'. She knew that her request would not be ignored. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani agreed to this request and assured her that he would take appropriate steps in the right direction after the elections were concluded.

During those years, there were no special schools anywhere between Thane and Pune. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani, not a man who would give false assurances or promises to anyone, began working on the project after the elections ended.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani visited many schools in Mumbai as well as in Nagpur and Pune. Some of the schools he visited during his fact-finding missions include JAI VAKEEL SCHOOL at Sewri, NANDANVAN at Nagpur and KAMAYANI at Pune. It was almost a divine co-incidence that he was on the Board of Visitors at the Mental Hospital in Thane. Because of hese extensive studies, Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was able to get an insight into the requirements and the type of infrastructure that would be required when he would embark on his project to help the Mentally Challenged of Ulhasnagar.

He contacted a lady named Mrs. Sharda Deshpande, from Dombivli who was well-versed in handling students of this type and the vision of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani began to take material shape.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani faced many problems from unforeseen quarters during this venture. But Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was unfazed by them. Opposition to the opening of such a school arose even from the Members of the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST. But Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's mind stood firm.

The school for the Mentally Challenged or Mentally Retarded was started in Bk. No. 111. Initially the general attitude of the parents, guardians and even the local residents was apathetic towards the school and the children. The inhabitants of the barrack pelted stones at the mentally challenged children. The Managing committee of the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST, JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL (originally the Navjeevan Vidya Mandir) and even the KISHINCHAND CHELLARAM SCHOOL for Deaf and Dumb stood in opposition of the school for the mentally retarded.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's will to help ease the sorrow of the mentally retarded children and their parents held fast. He did not relent in his efforts to protect the unfortunate children from the people who did not have any sympathy for their misfortune.

WITH DOUBT AND DISMAY YOU ARE SMITTEN,
You think ther's no chance for you, son?
Why the best books haven't been written,
The best race hasn't been run.
-Berton Braley , "OPPORTUNITY

The above lines written by Berton Braley in "Opportunity" illustrates the determination and commitment of Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani towards the upliftment of 'Children of a Lesser God'

The Managing committee of the NAVJEEVAN CIRCLE TRUST did not allow Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani to open the school or run it under its management. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani started a new trust called SAI BABA TRUST under which he started and operated the school.

He shifted the school to a room at a temple owned by Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's brother. There was more opposition from people once again. Eventually two flats in the Nav Jeevan Tower Building were purchased for the School as per the specification of Social Welfare Department of Education. The permission of the neighbours was also sought.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani had invited the then President of India, Giani Zail Singh to inaugurate the school. The primary discussions at the Mantralaya regarding the President's visit were over. It was decided that the President would inaugurate the school at Ulhasnagar on 17th August 1987. A huge task force went about making the arrangements for the President's visit. The Collectors, Commissioners and higher dignitaries remained close at hand in Ulhasnagar, working hard to see that the President's visit to Ulhasnagar would take place without a hitch.

The then Governor of Maharashtra, Late Shri. S.D.Sharma and the then Chief Minister Shri Shankarrao Chavan would also be present on the occasion as Presiding Authority and Chief Guest.

Each dignitary were to arrive at the Ordnance Factory Ground at Ambernath by Military Helicopters. They were to be brought from there by road, and all roads from the Ordnance Factory to Radha Swami Satsangh Hall where the inauguration was to take place were therefore to be barricaded. All security arrangements for the V.V.I.P.s had been made.

After all these elaborate plans had been set in place, an unfortunate incident took place at far-away Pune which had repercussions on the inaugural function at Ulhasnagar. On August 14,1987, General Vaidya, who was the Chief of the Army was assaulted at Pune. For security reasons, the inaugural programme was cancelled.

At a later date, the school was inaugurated informally by Late Shri Shanti Prakash Maharaj in Ulhasnagar itself.

Initially the SAI BABA EDUCATION TRUST SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED had 35 students which grew to 40 students. Specially trained teachers were appointed. The school was recognized by Social Welfare Department of Education, Thane. The Government Aid was also granted to the school. Gradually the views and opinions of the people towards the mentally challenged children began to change.

After the training at the school, the children went on to participate in various competitions and gained appreciation and recognition. They were trained in paper – folding, cutting, applying gum and other small jobs during the beginning of their education. Thereafter, they were able to be trained in the manufacture of agarbattis, envelopes, boxes, chalks, rakhis, candles, files and even soft toys.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani proved to the world that even those people who have been generally discarded by society out-castes or useless, can contribute constructively to society and industry if they are taken care of with loving hands, treated as God's own children and given a new lease of life after proper training from expert guides and teachers are imparted to them. The society's attitude towards the school and its students changed.

As of the year 2000, 110 children of various age groups were studying at the SAI BABA EDUCATION TRUST SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED. They are learning various skills and lessons which suit their temperament. 5 specially trained teachers, 2 Craft teachers, helpers and peons form a dedicated back-bone for this difficult but wonderful task. The children take part in cultural programs which are organized in prestigious locations like Birla Krida Kendra, Patkar Hall, Ravindra Natya Mandir and many more. The different products manufactured by the students attending the school are very much loved by people and is of great demand in the open market.

Despite the pressures and difficulties Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani faced in managing the four educational institutions namely – THE JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL – SINDHI MEDIUM, JASLOK HIGH SCHOOL – ENGLISH MEDIUM, KISHANCHAND CHELLARAM SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB and the SAI BABA EDUCATIONAL TRUST SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED, he was ever-ready to help the others in the educational field.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was asked to shoulder the additional responsibilities of the Chairmanship of two important educational institutions, which he accepted. The two institutions for which he was Chairman were SINDH NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL and JAI HIND ACADEMY. Both these Educational Institutions ran not only schools but Junior colleges also.

Many other instituitions wanted Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani to take over the Management of their schools during the critical periods of their history. Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani was always around to offer his assistance in more ways than one, but due to constraints of time he had to refuse the offer of the position of Chairman in all these other institutions. The virtue of all achievements is victory over oneself.

Whenever Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani did say ‘Yes’ to someone, he meant a ‘Yes’ and not a ‘Maybe....’. Whenever he accepted a responsibility, he made sure that he fulfilled his responsibility. This quality of honesty and his way of ‘calling a spade a spade’ made him a much-loved and respected person.

Many people would have jumped at such offers just in order to hog the lime-light, or to get more attention showered upon themselves – not Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani. For him, it has always been – “ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.” He knows the value of time. A man who does not believe in empty promises, he knows when he has to say a “NO” and he does.

It has been a long journey in the field of Education for Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani – from the year 1974 to the year

2002- and the journey continues. During this long journey, wherever Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani's eyes had spotted a scene of sorrow, hardship, misunderstanding or even abject apathy to fellowmen – he was always there, standing tall, his broad shoulders ever-ready for weary and tear-filled faces to rest on, a cheerful smile on the face of insurmountable obstacles, a steely will, grit and determination that would back him and his followers o tackle problems both big and small. The solutions he provided were not temporary ones, just to satisfy the others around him for a short while, in order to gain a powerful name or fame.

An ordinary man would have been bogged down by the kinds of obstacles and opposition which came across his path, but Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani strides on along his path of ighteousness, sincerity, tenacity and truth. There were times when even his near and dear friends doubted him and his vision. At times, due to his straightforwardness and honesty, he was duped by people close to him who pretended to be his friends.

The string of success which Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani wove throughout his long journey in the field of Education can be described by the following two lines of George Merdith :-

Who rises from Prayer a better man, his prayer is answered.

George Meredith , "THE ORDEAL OF RICHARD FEVERET"

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani is a man truly noble in his heart, mind, intellect, spirit and approach – an inspiration for all times to ome.

Mr. Sitaldas Harchandani does not seek glory.

Glory seeks him out.

For the GOOD of BANKING

FOR THE GOOD OF BANKING

"A king who is mindful only of the means of acquiring profit never succeeds in acquiring either merit or wealth" – *Meera Oberoi in "Leadership Secrets from the Mahabharata"*

Vidharba Nagrik Urban Shahkari Banks' Association had organized a samelan of co-orperative banks at Nagpur's Jerri Patka Colony in the year 1982. Shri Sitaldas Harchandaniji, being Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) was invited to be the chief guest of the occasion held on 23rd Nov. 1982. "Dadaji" as he is lovingly called by his near and dear ones was serving the people in the capacity of a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly. The Samelan, which had been sponsored by Sadhana Co-operative bank Ltd. was a grand success. Mr. Arjun Kukreja was the Chairman of the bank .

The bright and lustrous mind of Dada observed the good that the co-operative banks were able to do for the people. A seed of thought in correlation to the poor and down-trodden people of Ulhasnagar dropped into it. A bank which would be in a position to help out the poverty-stricken people of Ulhasnagar seemed to be the need of the hour. Dadaji began to wonder whether the establishment of a co-operative bank in Ulhasnagar would be the antidote to the various financial ills of his beloved people.

A couple of days later, Dadaji discussed this idea with Mr. Arjun Kukreja. He found out the norms and procedures of opening and operating or managing a cooperative bank. Not content with just his discussions with Mr. Kukreja, Dadaji made an in-depth study of cooperative banks in Nagpur for the next seven or eight days.

"No one who holds himself aloof from the activities of the world and who is insensitive to its woes can be really wise"
– S. Radhakrishnan, in "GREAT INDIANS"

Upon his return back to Ulhasnagar, he immediately started to make this dream of providing financial services to the people of Ulhasnagar a reality. He drove straight to the Reserve Bank of India at Bombay and met with the officer in charge of Urban Co-operative banks section. Mr. Subramaniam was in charge of this department and Dadaji discussed the norms and procedures to start a co-operative bank in Ulhasnagar. Mr. Subramanium encouraged this drive in Shri Sitaldasji and assured him all the help that would be required in order to start a bank.

"There is God within us, and we glow when HE stirs us"
– Ovid in "FAST"

Thus began the journey of Dadji to give unto his beloved people of Ulhasnagar, its first co-operative bank. The application form along with all the requisite documents was filled and was handed over to RBI. The Reserve Bank of India promised to send their officials and also those from the DDR department to Ulhasnagar within a fortnight.

The official team from Reserve Bank of India, the Jt. Registrar and D.D.R. finally arrived after two months. Dadaji himself went with the officials when a survey was conducted. This survey covered various colleges, schools, traders, people representing the Small Scale Industries , hutment dwellers, Ulhasnagar Municipal Corporation, Administrative Office and all the nationalized banks in the area. It was a week-long survey and through-out the entire survey the people who participated in it were asked the manner in which the establishment of a co-operative bank would affect their businesses or lives. The reaction from the participants was a positive one.

> "Ah, would but one might lay his lance in rest,
> And charge in earnest – were it but a mill.
> An idealist is a person who helps others to be
> prosperous" *-Henry Ford in "On the Witness Santo"*

This survey was a really important step, because if the participants of the survey had given a negative reaction, then Dadaji's dream of establishing a co-operative bank would not have been fulfilled.

The report of the survey was submitted to RBI's Urban Co-operative department. It took a long time for RBI to give him the green signal to start the first co-operative bank of Ulhasnagar. In April, they hinted to Dadaji to take further steps in the matter. The RBI gave him the guidelines regarding the minimum number of share-holders required, the amount of deposits and other rules and regulations. In June 1985, RBI finally gave Shri Sitaldasji permission to establish a co-operative bank in Ulhasnagar.

"Giving name is indeed a poetic art : All poetry, if we go to that with it, is but a giving of a name." *-Carlyle.*

Shri Sitaldasji was requested to suggest three names for the bank. Given below are the names suggested by him :-

1) Nav Jeevan Co-operative bank Ltd.
2) Sindhu Co-operative bank Ltd.

3) Sadhana Co-operative Bank Ltd.

The Reserve Bank of India approved the first name "Nav Jeevan Cooperative Bank and they issued a license in that name. All the necessary arrangements and preparations to start the bank went on at full swing.

"Take away the idea of perfection and you take away enthusiasm" *-Rousseau in "Juliet"*

Dadaji wanted Ulhasnagar to have a bank which was perfect in all ways and this idea of perfection drove him with enthusiasm . His followers and friends worked hard to see this dream come true. The first co-operative bank in the city of Ulhasnagar was established on 8th Nov. 1985. Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj graced the occasion and a Satyanarayan Pooja was also performed.

According to Dadaji , it was the happiest moment of his life. It had taken him three long years, and innumerable obstacles had been strewn along the way , but at the end of it all, he had been able to provide the people of Ulhasnagar a bank which was truly dedicated to their service. On the very first day of establishing the bank , 300 bank accounts were opened and about Rs.41,00,000/- (Rupees 41 Lakhs) deposits were received. It was a truly remarkable achievement indeed !

The number of accounts grew and so did the confidence of the people of Ulhasnagar in Dadaji and his prowess in the Financial field. Business in the area flourished, and this in turn brought faith in the hearts of the customers of Nav-jeevan Bank.

The bank performed very well and each year, its strength grew. This gave the management confidence to open more branches.

The Reserve Bank of India was approached for grant of license to establish a branch of Nav-jeevan Co-operative Bank in the commercial hub of Ulhasnagar.

> "Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
> Is our destined end or way;
> But to act, that each tomorrow,
> Brings farther than today."
> *-Longfellow, in "Psalm of Life"*

After struggling for a year, Dadaji received permission in 1991 from RBI to establish a branch at Siru Chowk which was at the heart of the city. All the preliminary work to start the new branch was made in earnest. The new branch was to have been inaugurated on 14th April 1992, once again through the auspicious hands of His Holiness Swami Shantiprakash Maharaj (Late).

This was the last public occasion which His Holiness took part in. Immediately after opening the new branch he left for Singapore and unfortunately met his untimely demise on the plane. His body was taken to Singapore airport and after three days, returned to India.

Due to this unfortunate incident, the formal opening of the branch was delayed by five days. Dadaji attributes the success of the bank to the Swamiji's blessings. Thus, on 17th April 1992, the branch was formally opened for the public by Shri Govind Swaroop, who was the Secretary of cultural Affairs, Govt. of Maharashtra.

There was an unprecedented positive response from the people and traders in the vicinity of Siru Chowk. The deposits soared to unforeseen levels, enabling the management to liberalize advances and loans. The result was a tremendous success.

The banks popularity touched the skies and the first years profits soared. Dadaji's confidence in the banking system he was putting into practice grew and this compelled him to apply for three more new branches – at Ulhasnagar – 5, Goal Maidan and Ulhasnagar – 4.

The Reserve Bank of India granted him the license to begin a branch at Ulhasnagar – 5. The locality is a very big market for ready-made clothes and those which are manufactured here are sold not only in Mumbai or Maharashtra but are marketed throughout the country.

The management of Nav jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. began its search for a suitable place to start its new branch in the year 1993. They wanted to find a place which will be suitable for traders and house-holders alike.

In the year 1994, the Govt. of India had organized an international study tour. On 14th June 1994, Shri Sitaldasji set out on this Govt. of India sponsored study tour to study the Cooperative banking systems of Western Europe, Rome, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, France and U.K.

Dadaji, a man who is always willing to observe and adopt all that which is good, found that the banks he visited there were very liberal in their operations. They dealt in insurance, foreign exchange and even in stocks and shares. He also observed that there were less cash transactions, but more credit cards. Even internal banking was done by inter bank credit cards. He also found that all the banks he visited were performing very well and showed high levels of profits.

Upon his return from the study tour, Dadaji found a builder and advanced him some loans to construct a building. Nav Jeevan Cooperative Bank Ltd. took the first floor. The name of the building is Nav jeevan Complex and it is owned by Nav Jeevan Cooperative Bank Ltd.

This 3rd branch was opened on 31st March 1995 through the auspicious hands of Swami Atmaramji Saheb. On this occasion Swami Devprakash Maharaj, who is ascendant of Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj's position also deposited Rs. 25,000/=. The bank was formally opened after a pooja. In the first year of its operation itself, the new branch at Ulhasnagar – 5 registered a huge profit.

The faith of Nav Jeevan bank's clients reached new heights. After this resounding and repeated success of all the three branches of Nav Jeevan Co-operative bank Ltd., Dadaji concentrated his attention on the inauguration of the two other branches. Accordingly, he requested RBI to grant him license for the same.

The Non Performing Assets of Nav Jeevan Co-operative bank ltd. (NPA) had grown beyond the permissible limits of 15 % as set by RBI. This was one of the stumble blocks on the road to acquiring license for newer branches. The management of Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. worked hard and ensured that the Non-Performing Assets was scaled down below 15 %.

RBI granted Shri Sitaldsji permission for opening another branch, the 4th branch. Thus the Chopra Court branch of Nav Jeevan Co-op. Bank Ltd. came into existence.

The Chopra Court branch was opened for the public after a Satyanarayan Pooja by Swami Atmaramji Saheb in 1996. Other eminent people such as Swami Devprakashji Maharaj, Swami Naraiandas Saheb and Sai Balram graced the occassion.

The name and fame of Nav Jeevan Co-operative bank spread throughout Ulhasnagar. The helpful nature of its staff and the able minds of the management ensured that Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. became the most preferred bank in Ulhasnagar. The Chopra Court branch received deposits worth 14 lakhs on the first day of operation. The first year of its operations registered a huge profit.

A journey which is not without difficulties is not one which can be remembered. A story without twist and turns is one which does not arouse interest in the minds of its readers. A life without upheavals does not produce inspiration in another.

Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. reached levels so high that it became the most preferred bank in Ulhasnagar, a name which can be trusted.

"Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust" – *Holms in "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table".*

There came a crisis for the bank in the year 1997. The management had advanced a few loans to some directors for their respective business and industries . Unfortunately they failed in repayment of equated monthly installments and thus the interest amount kept mounting. Dadaji personally gave several reminders but all of it fell on deaf ears. There was trepidation that the bank's Non-Performing Assets (NPA) might rise above 15% again.

There was no alternative left before the Board of Directors and hence a decision was taken that the matter should be referred to DDR, the registrar for filing of legal suits under section 101.

Letters were received from DDR and the RBI that the management had failed to take action against the three erring directors. So there was no alternative other than filing legal suits against them. DDR and RBI heard both parties and an order was issued for the disqualification of these three directors.

> "Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide
> In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side."
> – *J.R. Lowell in "THE PRESENT CRISIS"*

Dadaji opted to stick to the side of the good – as always.

Out of vengeance, the directors showed their true colours. The set out rumors at a press conference and local T.V. that the Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. was doomed and that the account holders had been misled. They also advised the account holders to with-draw the deposits or they may lose all their money.

Panic struck. The depositors and account holders began to withdraw all their savings in a hurry. There was a mad rush at the withdrawal counters.

An additional problem heightened this crises. The State Bank of India was on strike at that time and even though Nav

Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. had its own financial resources there, the strike disabled Dadaji from accessing it. The bank managed to bring in one Crore rupees from MSC Mumbai. More funds were arranged in the form of hand loans to cope up with the mad rush of the people.

"All seems infected, that the infected spy,
as all looks yellow to the jaundiced eye"
-Pope in "ESSAY ON CRITICISM"

For a period of 10 days, the bank was working upto 7Pm in the evening, trying to cope with the rush for withdrawals.

The people soon realized that the bank was honest in returning the hard-earned money of the people, and that it was just a false alarm from the vengeful and treacherous directors. The stupendous success of the bank had made these jealous directors with vested interest try to taint the well-earned good reputation of the bank.

Who brought me hither
Will bring me hence; no other guide I seek.
-Milton, "PARADISE REGAINED, I"

Shri Sitaldasji's leadership qualities came to the fore during this time of crisis for the bank. All that which he had worked for, all that he had planned and help build seemed to be crumbling down around him. But he was not deterred, because he knew that he had not failed the people.

"This above all : to thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as night the day
Though canst not then be false to any man".

-Shakespeare in "HAMLET"

The faith of the people revived. With renewed vigor the deposits came back to the bank. There was a reversed rush, now it was for depositing money back in the bank. As they say "Tough times don't last, tough men do…." and also "When the going gets tough, the tough get going….." During this difficult time, all the remaining Directors were with Dadaji – shoulder to shoulder. The efforts by Dadaji and his management saw to it that the crisis ended as soon as it began.

KARMA AFTER THE CRISIS

In the period of one year, between 1st April 1998 to 31st March 1999, the nation faced a crisis of tremendous proportions.

Dadaji's belief in the goodness of the people and his leadership qualities which steered the bank through rough times filtered down to each and everyone who worked for the bank. The nation was infiltrated by our neighbouring country in the Kashmir Valley. The Kargil Crisis had begun. Dadaji's workforce stood by the nation during its gravest days. The Board Of Directors and the staff of Navjeevan Cooperative Bank extended their sympathies and felt greatly for the bereaved families of the brave soldiers who had laid down their precious lives for the Motherland.

The Board of Directors and all the staff of all the branches of Navjeevan Cooperative Bank Ltd. decided to donate a whole day's salary to the Kargil Relief Fund. The bank also contributed to this united effort and a total contribution of Rs. 1,00,000/= (Rupees One Lakh) was handed over to the Honourable Home Minister Shri L. K. Advani (presently the Deputy Prime Minister of India) by Dadaji who personally visited New Delhi along with Shri Lal Punjabi, a Director of the Bank to offer the donation.

The good work for the people of Ulhasnagar continued. On 30th March 1999, the 5th branch of Navjeevan Cooperative Bank Ltd. was opened in Ulhasnagar-4. It is a completely computerized branch and all the banking needs of a customer can be satisfied from a single counter.

This branch of the Bank was inaugurated by Swami Dev Prakashji. Shri Ram Kapse, Ex- M.P., Shri Visheji, M.L.A., and many Corporators and dignitaries of the town were present for the occasion.

This branch received a tremendous response from the people of Ulhasnagar and everyone who banked there were appreciative of the efforts taken by the branch to satisfy their needs.

This made the Board of Directors of Navjeevan Cooperative Bank decide to computerize their remaining branches also.

The bank continued to make steady progress in all fields. The deposits of the bank rose by 39% during the year, from Rs. 3018.36 Lakhs to Rs. 4211.39 Lakhs. The Advances of the bank grew from Rs. 1568.58 Lakhs to Rs. 2035.92 Lakhs – a rise of Rs. 29 %. The bank was rated as an "A" Class bank.

The year following that, the last year of the last Millennium, from 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2000, saw the bank growing from strength to strength, equipping itself to face the challenges of the New Millennium. The Financial Markets were growing fast and the Financial Sector reforms were changing the banking scenario. The bank braced itself to meet the new challenges.

Computerisation of Siru Chowk Branch was completed and this move was well received by the people of Ulhasnagar. Work for computerisation of UNR-5 Branch was commenced. Dadaji wanted to prepare the bank to shift from Branch Automation to Bank Automation, which will facilitate networking of the five branches on an on-line basis.

The Bank's deposits went up from Rs. 4211.39 Lakhs to Rs. 6032.32 Lakhs, registering a growth of 43%. The Advances of the Bank also increased from Rs. 2035.92 Lakhs to Rs. 2734.96 Lakhs, showing a rise of 35%. The Net profits before appropriations, after the provisions, went up from 126.37 Lakhs to 154.48 Lakhs.

The following year, ie. 2000 – 2001, as the world entered the new century, the Bank began a new era of prosperity. Despite tough market conditions, slow down in production and sluggishness in the business of banking per se, Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. witnessed robust growth.

The Bank opened its sixth branch at Ulhasnagar-1, and it was a fully computerised branch. This branch was inaugurated by Swami Naraindas Udasi on 15-07-2001. The Mayor Shri. Hardas Makhija was present during this occasion.

The Reserve Bank of India gave the bank permission to open two more branches, one at Kopri Colony, Thane (East) and another at Mulund Colony. All the total six branches were fully computerized.

During the Gujarat Earthquake, in January 2001, the bank donated Rs. 1,00,000/= (Rs. One Lakh) to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund for those affected by it.

The deposits rose from 60 Crores to 80 Crores, registering a growth of 33%. There was a rise of Rs. 5.00 Crores in Advances, from Rs. 27 Crores to Rs. 32 Crores.

The year 2001-2002 saw a slow down of the country's economy but The Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd. recorded a very satisfactory growth in all respects, a growth which was substantially higher than that which had been recorded during the previous two years.

The Banking Industry in general recorded a growth of 16% in Deposits. The Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank recorded a growth of 30% in Deposits, again reflecting the confidence reposed by the depositors in the bank. The total deposits of the Bank crossed Rs.100 Crores and the Reserve Bank of India has been approached by the bank in order to receive a "Scheduled Bank" status.

The Bank's Advances increased by 44% and many people of small means benefited by this. Loans and advances were granted in order to purchase flats/rooms, consumer durables, house repairs and renovations, for the purchase of furniture, fixtures, for small businesses, for marriage expenses etc. which helped in raising their standard of living.

The Bank posted a rise of 25% in net profits in the year 2001-02 and this was the highest net profits earned by the bank in any single year since its inception.

THE FUTURE

Dadaji's immediate vision of setting up an ATM at their head office will become a reality soon. All the branches are to be net-worked together thus paving the way for MBB (Multi branched banking) in the near future.

The Reserve Bank of India has granted licenses for two more branches to be opened soon – at Thane Kopri Colony and at Mulund Colony. Once these other branches are established, Nav jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd., will gladly shed its image of being confined to Ulhasnagar and become a bank which will serve a wider territory.

There are tie-ups with ICICI Bank for O.B.C. clearing cheques, credit cards, Demat facilities, bank guarantees and various other facilities.

The Bank has decided to have an Extension Counter of the Bank at O.T. Section, Ulhasnagar-3. The Reserve Bank of India has been approached in this connection.

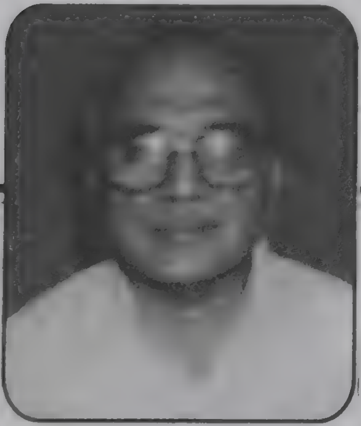
Shri Sitaldasji marches onwards in the path of progress and Lincoln's word which I am reproducing below comes to my mind as a fitting description of his work.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right"

– Lincoln in "Second Inaugural Address.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

ANAND L. MULCHANDANI



A TRUE SOCIAL WORKER
AND
EDUCATIONIST

It is a matter of happiness and joy to celebrate the 68th birthday of one of our Seniors and Well-wishers of many, Shri Sitaldas. K. Harchandani who has impressed us all, as a True Social Worker, Educationist, Fair Politician, etc.

Shri Sitaldas is my childhood friend, class-mate and co-worker in the field of Social Work, a colleague in Politics i.e. Jansangh, then Janata Party and now Bhartiya Janata Party.

I personally know Shri Sitaldas from childhood being his class-mate in the school, neighbour and a Founder Member of the Institute known as Nav Jeevan Circle which today, has reached great heights since its inception . We started this Institute as a Social Service Organisation, in or about 1953. Most of its members including myself, left the organisation after a few years. However, Sitaldasji continued with the activities of the organization and is responsible greatly for the success of the Institute. He got it registered as a Trust under the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 as well as a Registered

Society under the Societies Registration Act. Under this organization / institute, he started Schools for Dumb and Deaf children, Mentally Retarded Children and a High school catering to Sindhi as well as English mediums. He has also started a Bank with the same name i.e. Nav-Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd.

In the case of Sitaldas Harchandani, his quality proves his name. Sheetal means Cool minded person. He is very cool in his behaviour but not in other fields. He is highly active and social. The activities and contributions of Shri. Sitaldasji to society are so many, that they cannot be summed up in a small article like this one. I am therefore, writing about a few of the activities and projects which were started, continued and completed by him.

There have been several MLAs in Ulhasnagar. Shri Sitaldas was elected as M.L.A. on three occasions. As soon as he was elected, he tried his best to relate to the common man of Ulhasnagar, particularly the poor and down-trodden citizens of Ulhasnagar. He opened an office with a Clerk-cum-typist and one person looking after his work. He allocated a substantial amount of his time, each day for offering his services to the poor people and helping them. He felt Social work would be the ideal way for him to get closer to the common man. It is because of such activities of his, that Shri Sitaldasji was reelected in the subsequent two elections as M.L.A.

Sitaldas has contributed greatly to the field of Education. He has been a very practical man and has considered the cause of the down-trodden and neglected class of society to be a prime one. He started school for Deaf and Dumb persons and invited the then Governor of Maharashtra, Shri. O. P. Mehra to inaugurate them. Thereafter he started classes for mentally-retarded persons. These two projects have been very successful and there is a good demand for admissions.

ANAND L. MULCHANDANI

Advocate- High Court, Mumbai.

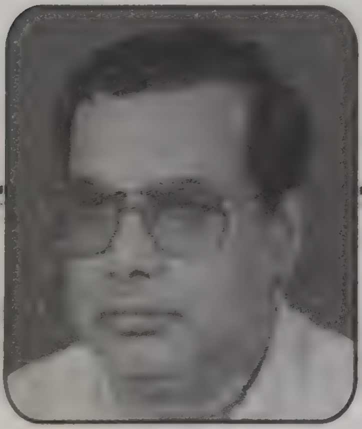
DR. B. G. WADHWANI

A SEASONED LEADER

Mr. Sital Harchandani as I know him is always "Seetal" the balanced and harmonious personality. Ever ready to help the poorest of the poor without hypocrisy or pomp and show. Our College cannot forget his sincere efforts in getting us the D. Ed. Course sanction from Government of Maharashtra. We wish him a long, healthy and creative life for many years to come.

DR. B. G. WADHWANI
Principal
Seva Sadan's College of Education
Ulhasnagar – 3 . (Thane)

HARDAS MAKHIJA



Today inspite of being very busy with his banking and educational management he religiously sits in his office every evening for all and sundry who have any problems are welcome.

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani is known to me since more than three decades. I have never come across such a great personality in our town.

Although, he is working in a different political party, he is admired by all political parties due to his great deeds done successfully in the Social, Educational, Banking and Political fields for the people of our town.

He has rendered the services for our town for more than 45 years which itself is a record. He is founder of Nav Jeevan Circle Trust, Jaslok Sindhi and English High Schools, Deaf & Dumb School & Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank which are flourishing due to his personal attention.

He is very popular and because of his selfless dedication to work for our town, the people have elected him Member of Legislative Assembly thrice continuously. During his tenure of MLA, the construction of Central Hospital, New Telephone Exchange Building, Shahad Railway Flyover Bridge, got permission to run the D. Ed. College, Town Hall etc. are major achievements for our town. Besides, he has done unaccountable services, which are beyond my words here.

Because of his yeoman services, he is not only popular in our town but known throughout India in Sindhi Community & Abroad too.

Though he is now 69 years old, he is still working like a young spirit which sets and example for us and let us learn to work like him to make our town shine.

HARDAS MAKHIJA

Mayor

Ulhasnagar Municipal Corporation.

M.K.SASI

THE SITALDASJI, I KNOW

Way back in 1978 when a friend requested me to take charge of the office of the newly elected MLA of Ulhasnagar constituency, I was a little wary about the offer. Any time when I think of any politician, the images emerge are the ones Abu Abraham caricatured in the pocket cartoon he used to contribute daily for the Indian Express – one, the tall look alike of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and the other, the short and stout resembling to Jagjivan Ram ! Frankly, the opinion formed in me of the politicians is not very charitable, even now. However, because of the pressure of my friend, I agreed to meet the new MLA, Shri Sitaldas K. Harchandani. I had, prior to his election, once heard him speaking in an election meeting in our residential colony – not much impressed (he too was a greenhorn in this field at that time).

At our first meeting itself. I found Sitaldasji to be unassuming. matured and sober. I had no hesitation in taking over the charge of his office. In fact. he gave me the charge to set up his office at First Floor. Laxmi Market. Thus. started a long association of 15 years with a gem of a person named Shri Sitaldas K. Harchandani. I have no regrets about this association. On the contrary, I am proud that I could closely associate and help him in his day-to-day discharge of duties and responsibilities as the people's representative.

As I mentioned earlier, the impression created in public mind of a politician is a self-seeking, corrupt and overbearing person. We may need more pejorative adjectives to describe the attributes of present day politicians. Instead of cooling heels behind bars in some remote jails, the likes of Phoolan Devi are ensconced in the comforts of the Parliament House enjoying the powers and privileges going along with it! The dacoits, the smugglers, the murderers, the fugitives rule the roost in politics. The Sitaldasjis have no chance to win against such opponents who flex their muscles and spend lavishly their ill-gotten money.

I vividly remember the crowd that used to throng the office and corridors of Laxmi Market during the school and college re-opening days for getting attested documents, certificates, EBC forms, etc. The monsoon session of the Assembly also falls around that time. The hard-pressed Sitaldasji used to rush back from the Assembly so as to reach the office before 5 O'Clock so that he could sign as many papers as he could. The remaining, a voluminous pouch, will be carried to his residence so that he can sign them during the night! While signing the papers in the Office, he will be hearing the grievances and problems of the people who came to see him and finding solutions for them. At times, he used to leave the Assembly half-way through so that he could attend to the problems of the people of his Constituency. He was all the time available to help the people in distress.

The innumerable recommendation letters to charitable institutions and philanthropists for financial help to poor, old and sickly people; the recommendation letters for admissions of children in schools and colleges; letters to MSEB, to the Revenue Department, to the Administrator, Pawai Chowk and UMC, to MWSSB, etc. were his ways of helping people. Often I found him paying from his pocket for purchase of books to deserving poor students. Yet, the people rejected him in the hustles for a man whose antecedents are none too inspiring. The people get a leader they deserve.

It is only because of Sitaldasji's efforts, the School for Deaf & Dumb could be started and brought up to the present level. He is also the moving spirit behind the establishment of Nav-Jeevan Co-operative Bank of which he is presently the Chairman. He deserves kudos for all these.

Readers may be wondering that I eulogized Sitaldasji to the extent of deifying him. No, that is not my intention. But, the Sitaldasji I know, is exactly as described above. That doesn't mean that he does not have weaknesses. He too is a human being and must have committed mistakes, which need to be over-looked considering his good traits and the good deeds he did.

God bless him.

M. K. SASI
Ex-secretary(Personal)
Currently Secretary To President -Century Rayon

MR. VINOD DHANKANI

It is a great honour for me to share some of my feelings for our beloved Shri Sitaldasji Harchandani, the dynamic and charismatic personality of Ulhasnagar City.

Today, no other person in Ulhasnagar can claim to be active in politics and social work and yet having the clean image, except Shri Sitaldasji Harchandani, and he has got this image not by luck, but by sheer hard-work, upliftment of the needy and poor persons of the society and dedication of his life towards social service.

As a promoter chairman of Ulhasnagar's only leading Co-operative bank – The Nav Jeevan Co-operative Bank Ltd., he has always helped the residents of Ulhasnagar City by providing them cash-credit, term loan and other form of credit facilities. It is his endeavour to give back the monies of Ulhasnagar residents collected by way of deposits to residents of Ulhasnagar city only by providing them loans, thus helping the trade and commerce of Ulhasnagar City.

In comparison, other nationalized banks of Ulhasnagar (about 42 branches) which are having collective deposits of Rs. 1,000 crores and advances of Rs. 150

crores. These nationalized banks collect the deposits from Ulhasnagar City but remit the same to their Mumbai Office, for betterment of Mumbai instead of Ulhasnagar !

Further, he always works ahead of times and that is why the two of the five branches of the bank are already computerized and remaining to be computerized within one year.

About two weeks back, I suggested him for creating of bank's own website which he has already accepted and got the name registered.

I wish the bank do achieve the status of 'Scheduled Bank" under his guidance and direction by 2002.

VINOD DHANKANI

Chartered Accountant.

वामनराव साठे

उल्हासनगर शहराशी माझा संबंध गेली ४० ते ४५ व पासून पक्षकार्य जनसंघ निमित्त दीर्घ काळ आला आहे. त्यामुळे तेथील अनेक कार्यकर्त्यांशी माझा जवळून परिचय झाला. त्यांत ज्यांचा विशेष उल्लेख करावा असे माझे मित्र श्री. सीतल हरचंदानी आहेत. आजही सहकारी बॅकांमुळे माझी व त्यांची धनीष्ट मैत्री आहे.

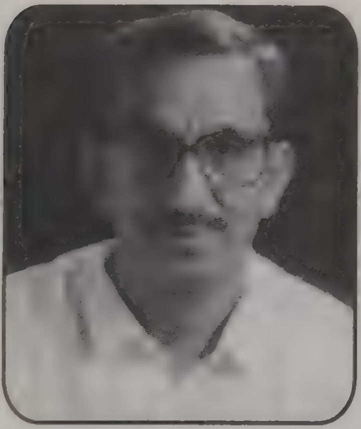
समाजातील सामान्य माणसांच्या आर्थिक गरजा ओळखून त्यांना स्वयंपूर्ण करणे यासाठी सहकारी बॅकांच्या माध्यमातून आपण करु शकतो हे नेमके ओळखून परीश्रम घेऊन चिकाटीने त्यांनी उल्हासनगर मध्ये नवजीवन बॅकेची स्थापना केली व आज ती चांगली काम करीत असून सहकारी क्षेत्रात त्यांनी आपल्या बॅकेला उत्तम स्थान स्वतःच्या कष्टाने मिळवून दिले आहे.

काही काळाची आमदारकी, सामाजिक कार्याचा प्रदीर्घ अनुभव, संघटन कौशल्य, कार्यकुशलता, दूरदष्टी, लोकसंग्रह व शांत स्वभाव या त्यांच्या गुणांचा लाभ यापुढेही सर्वांना मिळो. तसेच त्यांना पुढील आयुष्य सुखाचे, आरोग्यदायी व समृद्धीचे जावो हीच प्रार्थना.

आपला

वामनराव साठे

विलास देसाई



मा. श्री. सितलदासजी हरचंदानी वयाच्या 70 व्या वर्षात पदापर्ण करीत आहेत. याबद्दल मनस्वी आनंद होत आहे. मा. सितलदासजी म्हणजे सहकार सेवा, शिक्षण क्षेत्रातील आदर्श व्यक्तीमत्व! स्वकर्तृत्वावर अनेक क्षेत्रात त्यांनी स्वतःचा ठसा उमटवला आहे. उल्हासनगर विधानसभा मतदार संघातुन तीन वेळा सतत बहुमताने निवडून येऊन, मतदार संघातील विकास, दूरसंचार–दळणवळण, झोपडपटटी सुधार व नागरी सुविधा विकासासाठी केलेले सुनियोजत काम आजही उल्लेखनीय आहे. नवजीवन सहकारी बँकेची स्थापना, शेडयुल्ड दर्जा मिळविण्यासाठी होत असलेली प्रगतीची घोडदौड म्हणजे त्यांनी बँकेसाठी केलेल्या व्यापक स्वरुपाच्या कामाचे उदाहरण आहे. कोकण नागरी सहकारी बँक्स असोशिएशन या कोकणातील सहकारी बँकांच्या संघटनेतही संचालकपदी असुन कामकाजात सहभागी असतात.

शिक्षणाचे अनन्यसाधारण महत्त्व त्यांनी जाणले. नवजीवन सर्कल ट्रस्टची स्थापना केली. या ट्रस्टद्वारे जसलोक इंग्लीश स्कूल ही इंग्रजी–सिंधी माध्यमाची शाळा चालविली जाते. याच ट्रस्टद्वारे के. सी. स्कूल ही मुक बधिरांसाठी शाळा चालविली जात आहे. मतीमंदासाठी साईबाबा स्कूल ही शाळा साईबाबा एज्युकेशनल ट्रस्ट चालविते. या संस्थेचे ते संस्थापक व अध्यक्षही आहेत. त्यांच्या अथक प्रयत्नांमुळेच महाराष्ट्रात सिंधी साहित्य अकादमीची स्थापना झाली. उल्हासनगर–विठठलवाडी रेल्वे प्रवासी संघटनेचे ते अध्यक्ष आहेत. त्याच्या प्रयत्नामुळेच आज उल्हासनगर रेल्वे स्टेशन अद्ययावत व नुतनीकरण करण्यात आले आहे. वैयक्तीकरित्या, वीस हजाराहून अधिक उल्हासनगरवासीयाना जागेची मालकी मिळवुन देण्यासाठी, मदत केली आहे

शासनाच्या सार्वजनिक सेवा, न्याय व अन्य विविध समित्यांवर आजही ते सल्लागार म्हणून काम करीत आहे.

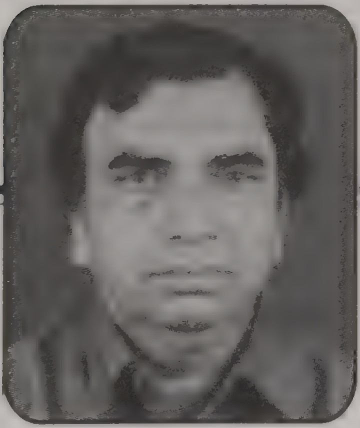
मा. श्री सितलदासजी यांनी सहकारी, सामाजिक, साहित्यक, शैक्षणिक व सांस्कृतिक संस्थाच्या माध्यमातुन जे भरीव कार्य केले आहे त्याला तोड नाही. आज जग झपाटयाने यंत्रावत होत आहे. या परिस्थितीत सितलदासजीं सारखी सामाजिक कार्याला वाहुन घेण्याची वृत्ती नव्या पिढीत रुजविणे आवश्यक आहे. म्हणूनच ही गौरविका याबाबत मार्गदर्शक ठरेल असे वाटते.

निर्व्यसनी, सेवाभावी, निर्गवी, अभ्यासू, उत्तम संघटन, समाजातील उपेक्षित घटकांचे नेतृत्व अशी अनेक विशेषणे लावता येतील. मा. श्री सीतलदासजी वयाची ६९ वर्षे झाली तरी, आजही युवा मनाने, तडफेने कार्यमग्न आहेत.

त्यांच्या या गौरव सोहळयास आणि गौरव अंकास माझ्या हार्दिक शुभेच्छा ! मा. श्री सितलादासजी हरचंदानी यांचे मी मनःपुर्वक अभिनंदन करतो. त्यांच्याकडून राष्ट्राची अखंड सेवा घडो व त्यासाठी त्यांना उत्तम आरोग्य लाभो, हीच सदिच्छा !

जीवेत शरद शतम;

विलास देसाई



SRICHAND GURNANI

MAN OF PERFORMANCE

Why verb is a loudest word of a sentence ? Because verb indicates action. " Actions speak louder then words" said a wise man

This is a performance story of a man who hardly believes in speaking. He firmly believes in performance. When this writer had an interview (in sindhi) with Shri Sital Harchandani it was observed that he is a man of few words but with many achievements. Even answers to my questions what he gave were quite brief and to the point. But when he narrated his story of performance, it seemed tremendous contribution on his part. At any time, it never appeared that he is a man who believes in boasting about his remarkable work for Ulhasnagar and people.

While keeping in view his aforesaid services, I can say that Shri Sital Harchandani is a man of action. And, I repeat "Actions speak louder than words."

On the eve of his birthday I pay him my hearty greetings and pray to God that he may continue to render his excellent services for a long long time to come.

SRICHAND GURNANI
Advocate High Court.

GIRDHAR MADHAV MALANEY

I have known Shri Sitaldas since his young age, when both of us were staying at O.T.Section, Ulhasnagar-3. He was quite active during those days entertaining common man and taking care of youth and that was when he established The Navjeevan Circle. Those days are quite fresh even today in my mind.

Sitaldasji has contributed a lot for the upliftment of the people of the town and solved various problems of the community when he was elected MLA for three consecutive terms. In addition to this, he has also established a school for boys and girls and also for deaf and dumb children, who are being neglected by the society.

I have come to know that Shri Sital Harchandani is completing 70 years during the month of December and that he is still very much active even today to solve the problems of people. He has also contributed towards financial needs of traders as well as industries in the town by operating various branches of Navjeevan Bank Limited which was initially opened in the city due to his own strenuous efforts.I am confident that God will give Shri. Sital Harchandani immense energy to work in the social field for many years to come.

GIRDHAR MADHAV MALANEY

This small Book is penned in the Honour of Sarvashri. Sitaldasji Harchandani (Dadaji) for dedicating his Entire Life in the service of people of Ulhasnagar Township for its prosperity and overall development.

It is said and known fact that 'GOD' can not be Everywhere, therefore, 'He' creates noble persons like Dadaji for upliftment of the society to make this Earth / World a wonderful place to live in.

Let us pray to Almighty God to give Dadaji a Excellent health, Strong will power, Sufficient Courage and Long Life for serving the Mankind with ethics to its maximum level and all purity.

A WELL WISHER

THOUGHTS

✪ A living Legend. A man who has already served the people of Ulhasnagar for a period spanning 45 years still continuing with the same dedication.

✪ Has achieved milestones in every field. Social, Political (3 times elected as MLA, heads a Multi-branch banking institution and handling multiple Educational Institutions. In every field he has been Numero Uno !

✪ Punctuality and Truth – are two primary guiding forces of his life. This has made him reach where he is today. "Leader of the Masses"

✪ Unparalleled lifetime achievements - All these with effortless ease, poise, patience and devotion have put Sitaldasji on a pedestal only rare people attain.

✪ A guiding force for future generations to come. This book reveals everything in the minutest detail of the struggle endured, sacrifices given and thereby setting an example. Hats off Sitaldasji!

✪ Men like him are born once in centuries. He stood the test of time coming out with flying colours in every work he put his hands on. His magic touch and sincere integrity for the community and human-kind as a whole made him succeed at all levels – from treasurer of Jan Sangh in 1966 to MLA from 1978-1990.

✪ A leader all his life – creating history of sorts by getting elected MLA thrice, every time with a thumping majority. He earned all his goodwill by being true to all his promises, fulfilling them always on time. There will be no parallel for this man in times to come.

✪ A man having no parallel in recent history of Ulhasnagar – 45 years of public service comes very seldom.

✪ Leader of the modern era – architect of modern Ulhasnagar. Astonishing achievements such as first electronic telephonic exchange, two central hospital buildings, fly-over at Shahad, remodeling of Ulhasnagar Railway Station, procuring funds for the Town Hall, recreational facilities at VTC Ground to name a few ....

✪ Has earned unattainable goodwill of the people of Ulhasnagar – first by thrice getting elected as MLA and now by excelling in the field of banking. 12 years as MLA, already 13 years heading a multi-branch bank.

Example of goodwill in politics i.e. thrice as MLA

Example of goodwill in Banking i.e. over 100 crores as deposits-

Need I say more ??

✪ Has struggled to reach this Zenith of glory. Always believing in the power to give; never made noise over his good deeds. His favourite one liner : "Remember life through giving lives and gives to him who gives and gives". The perfect model for all this is the illustrated career of Harchandaniji.

✪ His efforts have no superlatives; his success in every area of life is historical / colossal. He is the sole voice of the minority Sindhi community; has achieved a lot for them through various agitations in the assembly. Today also he finds strength to go on due to the blessings of the people of Ulhasnagar.

- ✪ Forty five years of selfless service; achievements in every aspect – social, political, banking, education and still striving to go….Hats off to you sir !

- ✪ Man with the Midas Touch ; lone fighter; one point program i.e. betterment of the people of Ulhasnagar…..and has achieved it in great style.

- ✪ This institution headed by Sitaldasji, I am sure will be a befitting example of success through struggle and perseverance for 46 long years. Bravo, you have done it sir!

- ✪ "Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance" -saying by Samuel Johnson. All those lifetime achievements of Sitaldasji are but a stamp of approval to this.

- ✪ Selfless spirit – among the practices of this noble thought, Sitaldasji will stand tall among few parallels in Indian history.

- ✪ Sitaldasji has shown temperament to struggle, determination to succeed, and patience in the onslaught, confidence in himself – that's why success is his today. A befitting example for generations to come……….

A WELL WISHER

Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, Ex. M.L.A. has excellent track record in development of Ulhasnagar township, right from its inception .ie. for the last 50 years. He is associated with innumerable activities, all these are paying rich dividends to the citizens of Ulhasnagar. He is also a banker who gave birth to the Nav Jeevan Co-op Bank Ltd., nourishing and bringing up the bank with his heart and soul. Also connected with Social, Educational and Religious Institutions. He is a philanthropist, who loves downtrodden people more particularly handicapped, deaf and dumb children. Known for his wise counsel, pragmatic approach and dedication, he has proved to be immensely popular. The township is going through a sea of change, we are sure, he will continue to blaze a trail and shoulder the responsibility of meeting the needs of time and the people of the town.

The young and upcoming citizens of Ulhasnagar are sure to benefit from going through this book.

A WELL WISHER

P. G. KRISHNAMURTHY

Sitaldas, a motivation for the new generation in many ways. I have personally been associated with dada as we call him, since 1999. I became close to him when I was given the project of making the first computerized bank branch of Navjeevan Co-Op Bank. We finished the mammoth project in just 2 months. Dada was the guiding spirit during all the difficult times when I felt stressed and exhausted.

During these times I used to spend with him, even while travelling in the car, I used to listen to his past experiences and learn from them. TIME according to him is the most important component in ones life; **he who values time will succeed in life.** Dada is a living example of this, he travels to all his bank branches in a fixed time routine and one can meet him by just seeing the time and day and meet him on time, every time.

He is very approachable. to rich, to poor, to aged or small children, to the healthy and the physically or mentaly challenged. His activities are a reflection of his heart. This book is a list of his various achievements. I am awestruck to what a man can do in a single lifetime. He once came to know my brithday from someone, he took me to his favourite restaurant and we had toast butter and tea. Simple living, high thinking , and looking after the smallest opportunity to make everyone feel a part of his life.

Politicians now a days go around with lot of police and security. Dada would say if you are the people's man, why should you be afraid. A brave man, he would fight against any wrong without thinking of his own security.

Everyone needs to learn from his life, and adapt as much as possible. When we were writing the captions of the photographs for the book; I was astonished by the various diffferent aspects of a single person, and hope that schools make it a part of their student study material.

P. G. KRISHNAMURTHY.

PROTON Communications and Computrs. KALYAN.

SITALDASJI'S MESSAGE

The Nav-Jeevan Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is the only biggest bank in Ulhasnagar city with six branches. It serves (meets) immediate financial needs of the depositors.

The Nav-Jeevan is purely your own bank for your own benefits...........

It offers an extra benefits to the respected senior citizens ....

The Nav-Jeevan Bank respects all its depositors including the senior citizens with special and extra benefits to them.

The Nav-Jeevan Bank is only bank in Ulhasnagar city which offers prompt service and takes immediate actions on your loan proposals.

The Nav-Jeevan bank is only bank which cares for your financial needs and grants immediate loans to deserving depositors.

The bank which you can fully trust and multiply your savings for shaping the bright future of your family.

At the Inaugural function of computerized Chopra Court branch on 09-11-02

DADA SITALDASJI

PHOTO FEATURE :

(i) BLACK & WHITE

(ii) COLOUR

MAN OF THE MASSES

اکل پارتیہ جن سنگھ
سندونگر شاخا
سمیلن
آرتوار آگست 1970

Addressing the party grass root workers and colleagues at a BJP Sammelan in 1970 is Shri Sitaldasji.

Felicitating Shri Vasant rao Pandit, President of Maharashtra Jana Sangh is Shri Sitaldasji.

The face should be smiling, the determination should be steely and the will should be solid. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then President of Bhartiya Jan Sangh with Shri Sitaldasji.

The Man and Mentor. Serving selflessly to the Mankind for past 45 years. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, now Beloved Prime Minister with Shri Sitaldasji.

A common platform, a common concern anxiety written large on everyones faces, but a firm determination to succeed against all odds. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee flanked on his right by Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj and on his left Shri Sitaldasji during 1969 Indo-Pak. War. Others L - R Shri Tirthdas Chandwani, Shri Gurbux Motwani, Shri Vasantrao Bhagwat, Shri Lal Daryani, Shri P.H. Advani.

Garlanding Sai Jeevan Ghot is Shri Sitaldasji

At a felicitation ceremony with Manager S.T. Depot, Vithalwadi garlanding Shri Sitadasji, other dignitaries present are Sai Tekchand Mirpuri, Shri Rajal Singh Bhathija, Shri Sakhawat Chotwani and others S. T. Officials.

On the occasion of Swami Shanti Prakashji's birthday, paying tributes to the Sant is Shri Sitaldasji.

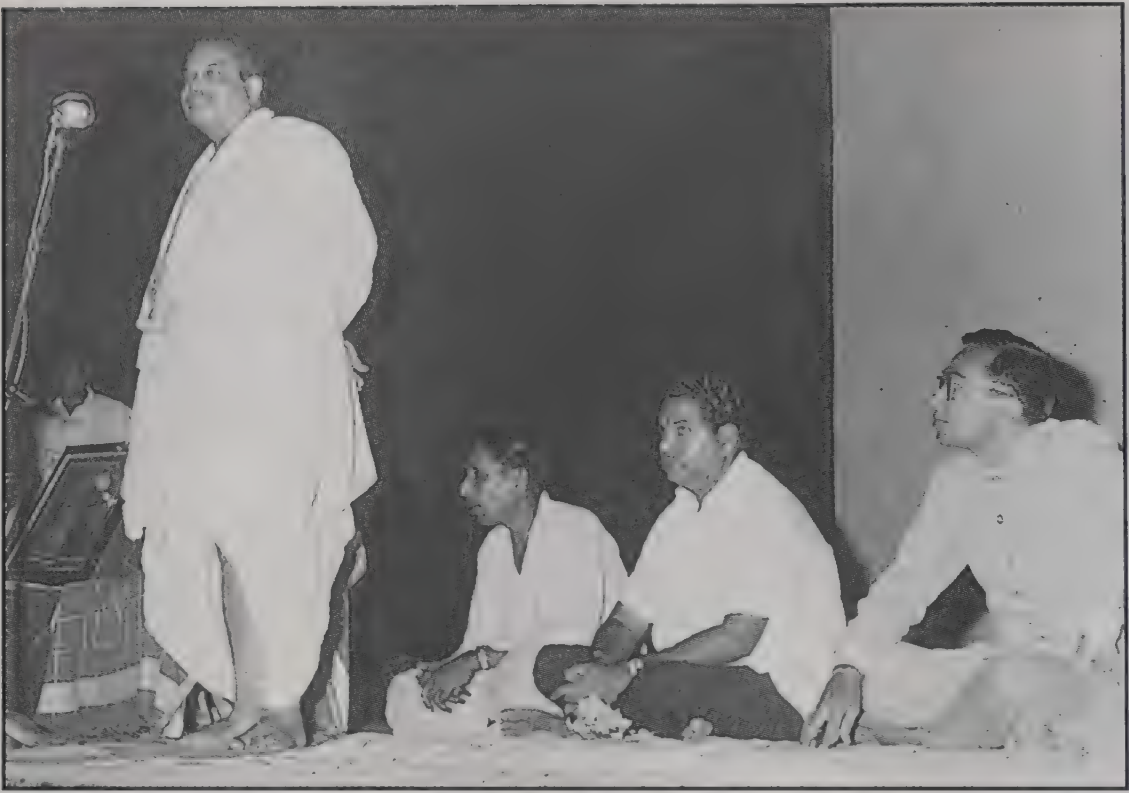
Dada, President of Rotary Club, (UNR) exchanging flags with Members of Rotary Club of London.

Shri Sitaldasji addressing the gathering of Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar at Navjeevan Trust office. Sharing the dias with Shri R.P. Kedia, Principal Mr. Ahuja, and Shri Udharam Ahuja, President of Bar Council of India.

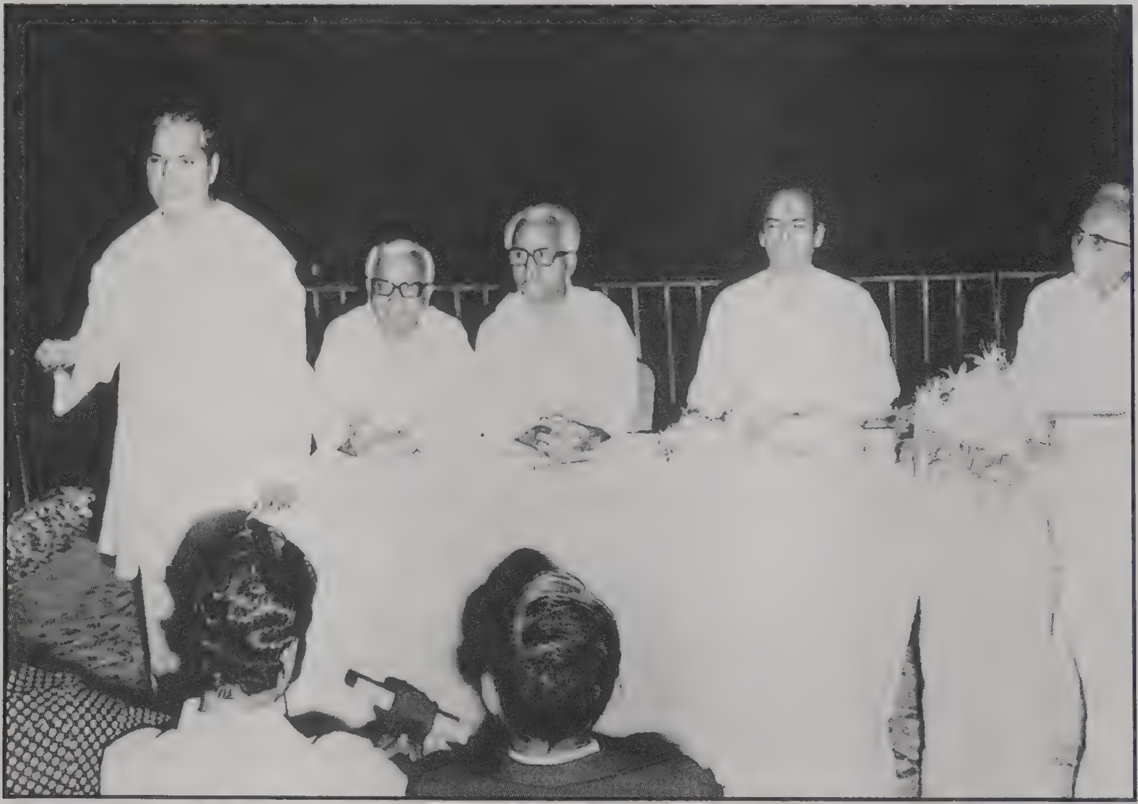
At a function for the deaf and dumb Shri Sitaldasji sharing some lighter moments with film actress Tabassum. On Left is Shri Lal Punjabi, Shri Bhagu Talreja.

Shri Sitaldasji garlanding Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj on the eve of the inauguration of school for the mentally retarded childrens. The schoo is run by Sai Baba Educational Trust.

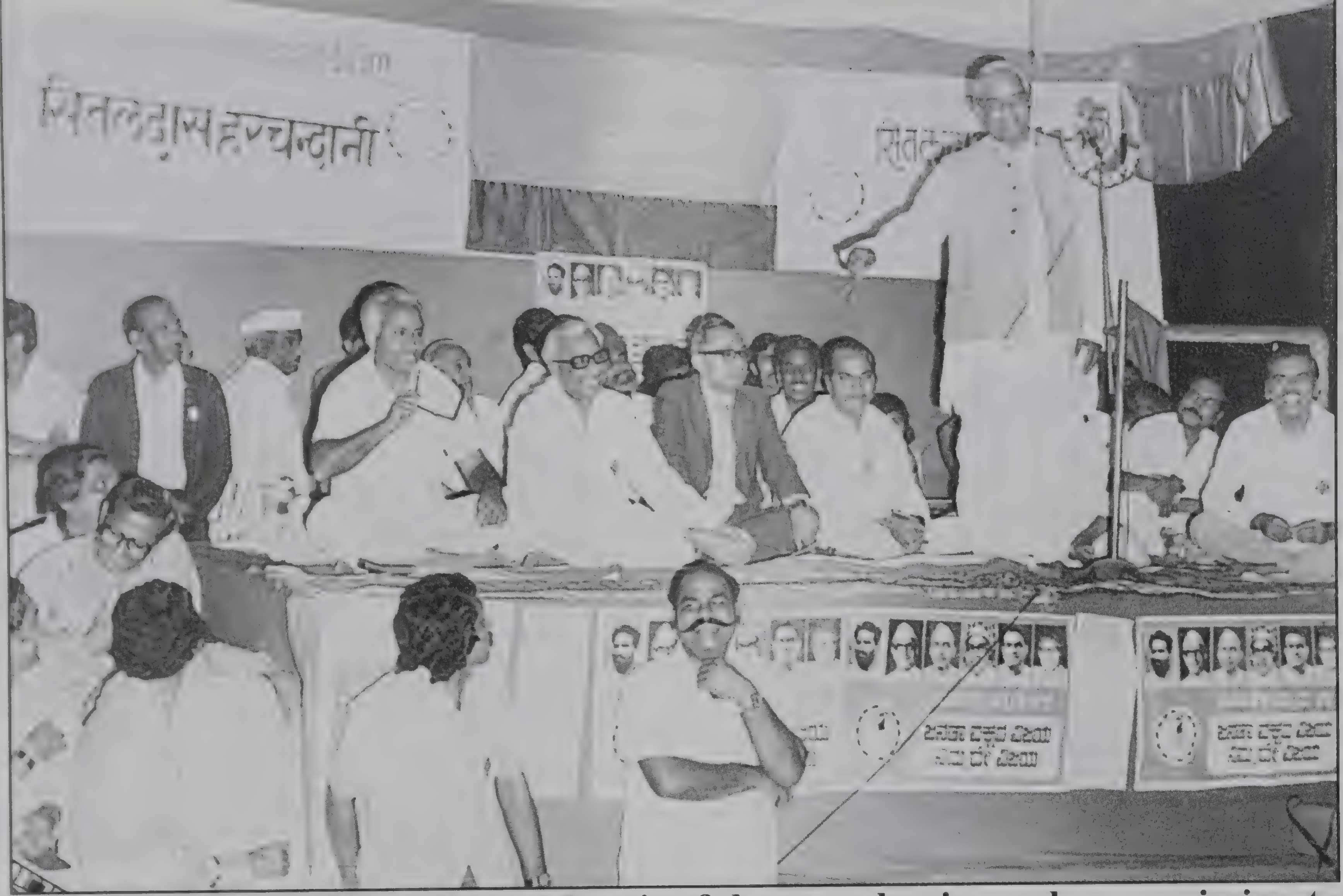
At the same occasion Swami Shanti Prakashji Maharaj is being lent a helping hand by Shri Sitaldasji in the releasing of the souvenir.



Jagannath Rao Joshi the then General Secretary of Bhartiya Jan Sangh is seen here with Shri Sitaldasji, Shri K.M. Talreja and Shri Hemandas Khatri.



Sitaldasji speaking at an occasion with the then Home Minister Mr. Bhai Vaidya along with him are Shri Prahlad Advani and Shri Kishin Dalwani 1979.



One is Atal the other is Sital, Meaningful names having only one mission to serve India, at Sitaldasji's election campaign (1978).

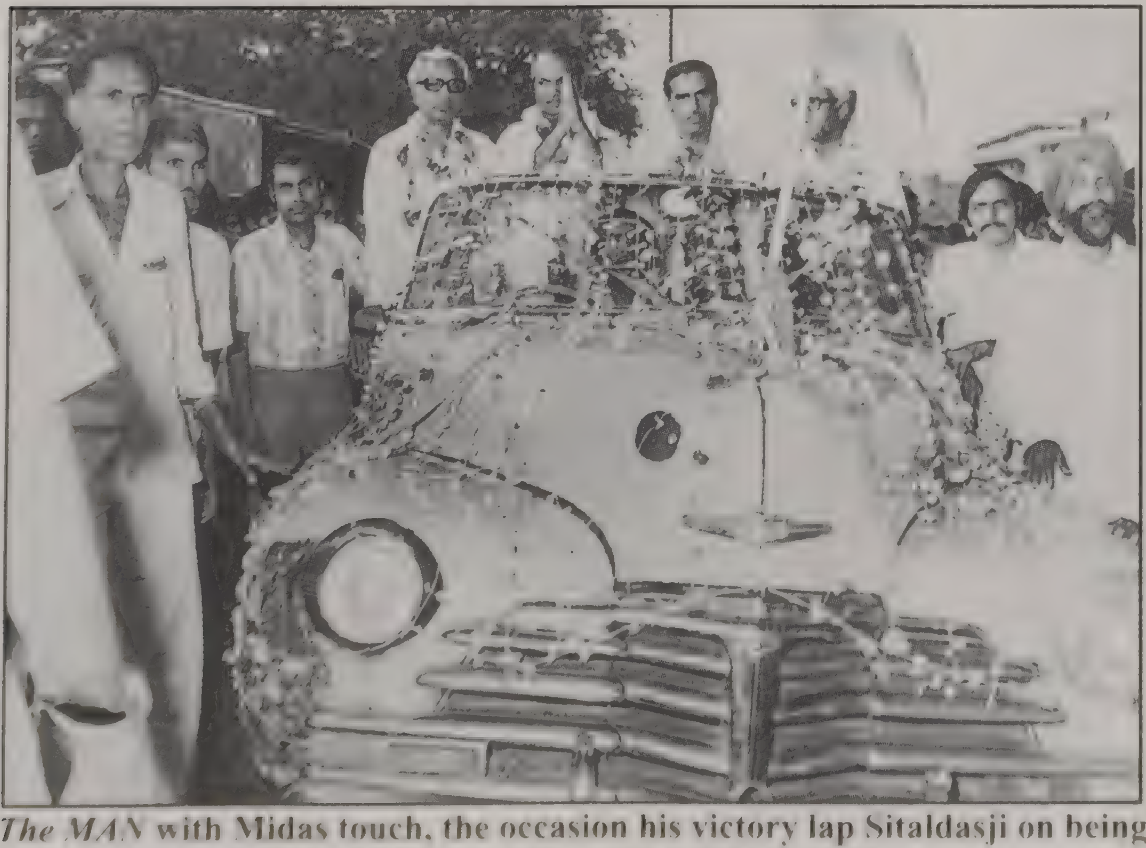
The two Torch bearer's of Sindhi community, at National level Shri L.K. Advani now Dy. P.M. and local level Shri Sitaldasji (1980).

जनता पार्टी के उमेदवार
सितलदास हरचंदानी

At the dawn of a new era of Ulhasnagar, his first eletion rally Sitaldasji with Shri L.K. Advani in 1978. On the microphone is Shri Salamatrai Purswani.

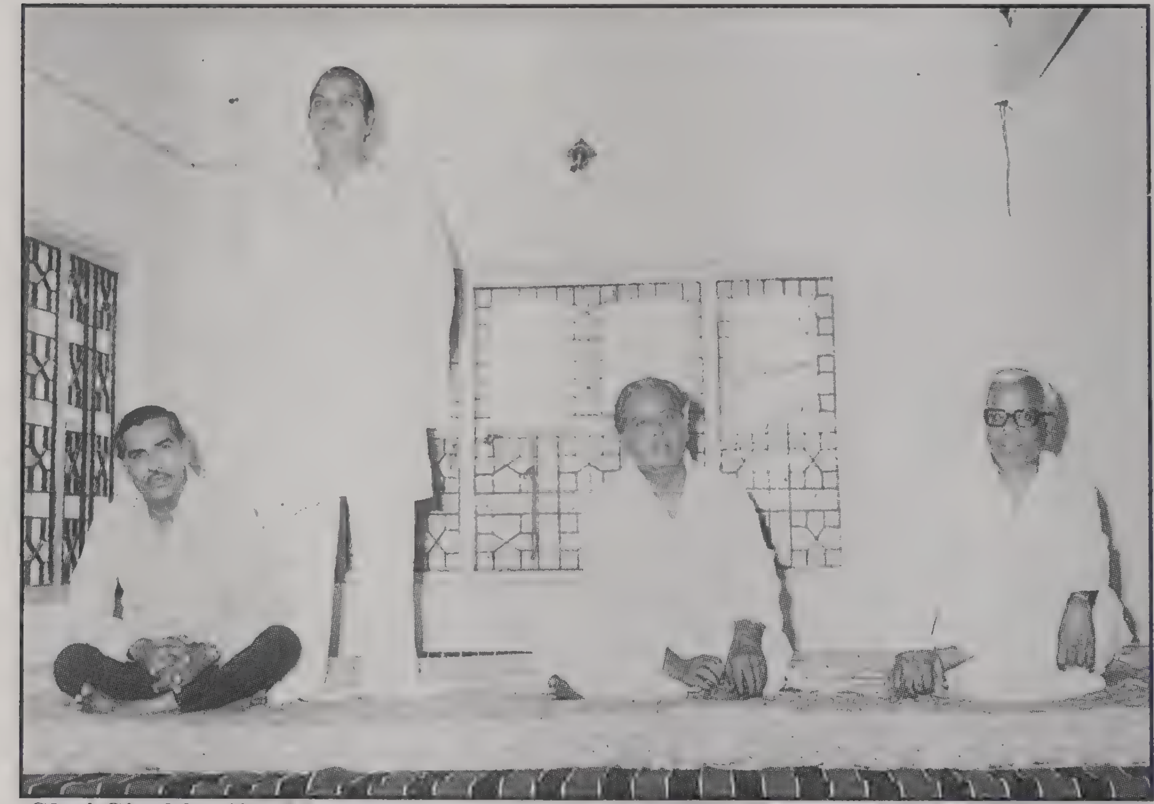
VOTE BHARTIY JANATA PARTY
Candidate SITAL HARCHANDANI

One is Atal the other is Sital. Meaningful names purposeful mission. Outstanding Indians already achieved various milestones at an election campaign in Ulhasnagar in 1980, with Rambhau Mhalgi, M.P.



The MAN with Midas touch, the occasion his victory lap Sitaldasji on being elected MLA for the second time in 1980.

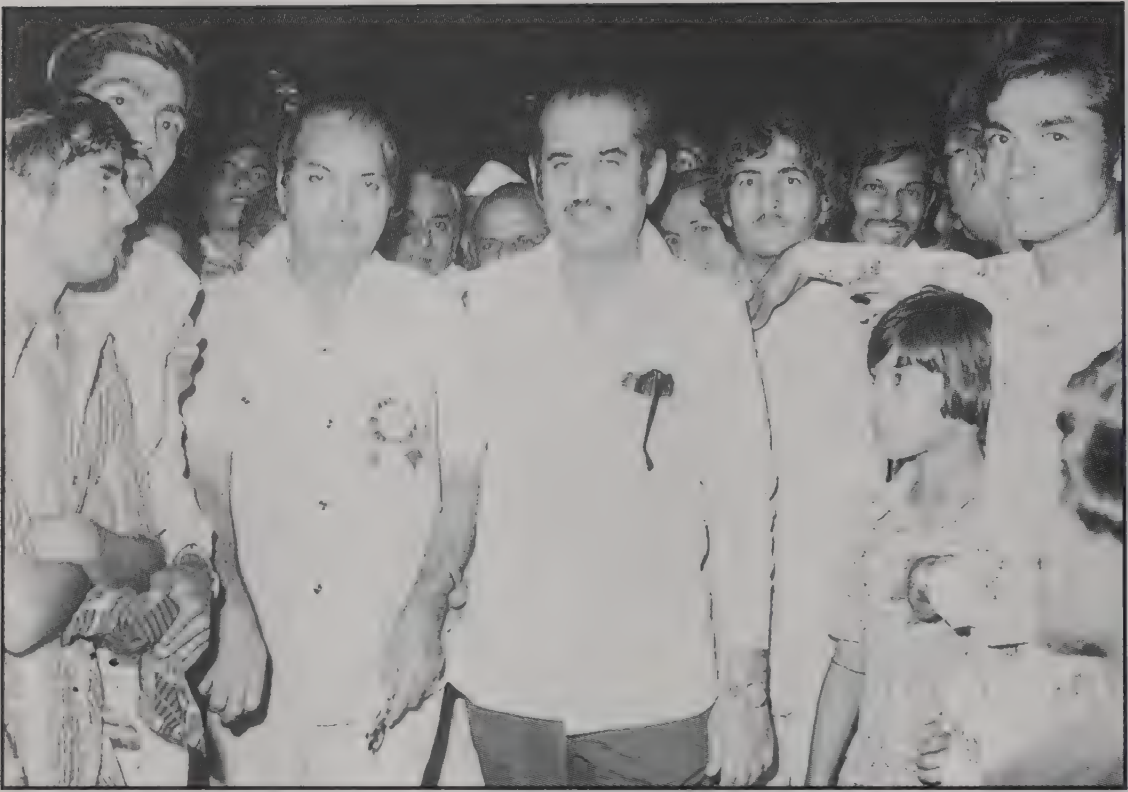
Hearing with rapt attention, C.M. Shri Vasantdada Patil, the great Maharashtrian leader with Shri Sitaldasji.



Shri Sitaldasji addressing a gathering in 1979. With him is Civil Supplies Minister Mr. Upadhaya.

The King of Law Shri Ram Jethmalani with King of common man Shri Sitaldasji Harchandani, at a BJP Sammelan at Sangli.

The *TWO TIGERS* one in Police the other in Politics discussing Law and Order. Commissioner of Police Mr. Julio Riberio with Mr. Harchandani.

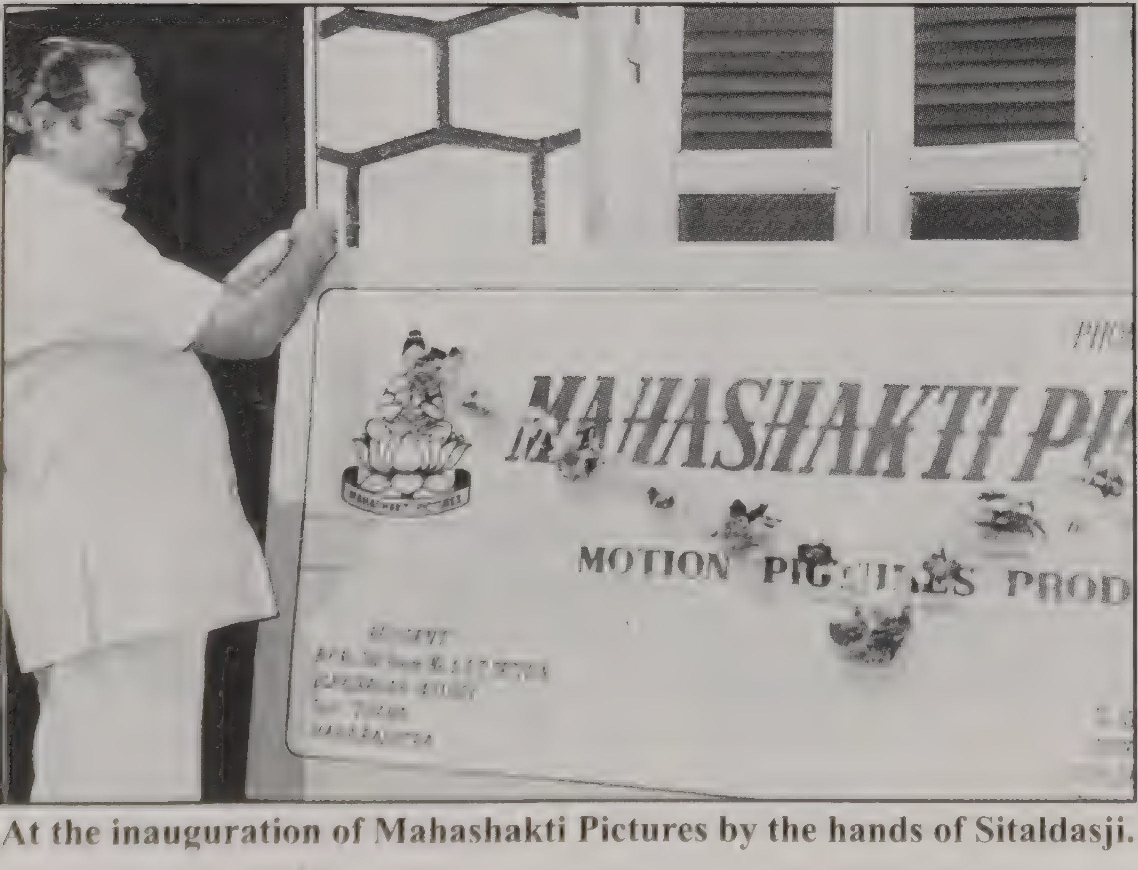


Shri Sitaldasji at a Sindhi felicitation ceremony with Finance Minister Shri Hashu Advani surrounded by beloved janta.

Shri Sitaldasji with Shri Salamatrai Purswani, Shri Kishan Dalwani and Shri P.H. Advani in procession thanking general public on electing him M.L.A. (1978).

ULHASNAGAR BRANCH 917
WELCOMES
Sitaldas Harchanda
INAUGRATIO
EXHIBITION
21-9-81

At an Exhibition organised by Life Insurance Corporation of India, inaugurated by Shri Sitaldasji at Ulhasnagar.


MAHASHAKTI PI
MOTION PICTURES PROD

At the inauguration of Mahashakti Pictures by the hands of Sitaldasji.

POPULAR
FILM AWARDS

On the occasion of Film Awards Night, with the mike is Ravi Sharma and from L to R: Vinod Mehra, Bindu, Vidya Sinha, Zarina Wahab, Hasmukhbhai Upadaya (Minister for Food) Shri Sitaldasji, Gulshan Rai, and Shri Bohra, President. All

Shri Sitaldasji with Shri Badar Mastaki, Governor or Rotary Club at Ulhasnagar Shri Naraindas and Shri Dayal Asha at Goushala, UNR-5.

With Shri Lal Punjabi and Shri Kamal Parwani at the opening ceremony of Sindhi Youth Circle's Souvenir is Shri Sitaldas Harchandani.

Shri Sitaldasji inaugurating the Statue of Subhash Chandra Bose at Netaji Chowk, Ulhasnagar-5.

The *DAY DANCE*, Cheti Chand, Sindhi New Year, with the Shri Sitaldasji.

Nothing is foreign to Shri Sitaldasji. In Spain with Lal Daryani

At a Municipal Council felicitation ceremony Dadaji with Shri Hashu Advani, the then Urban Development Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra.

Addressing Ulhasnagar Vyapari Maha Mandal is Shri Sitaldasji with Commissioner of Police Mr. Julio Riberio.

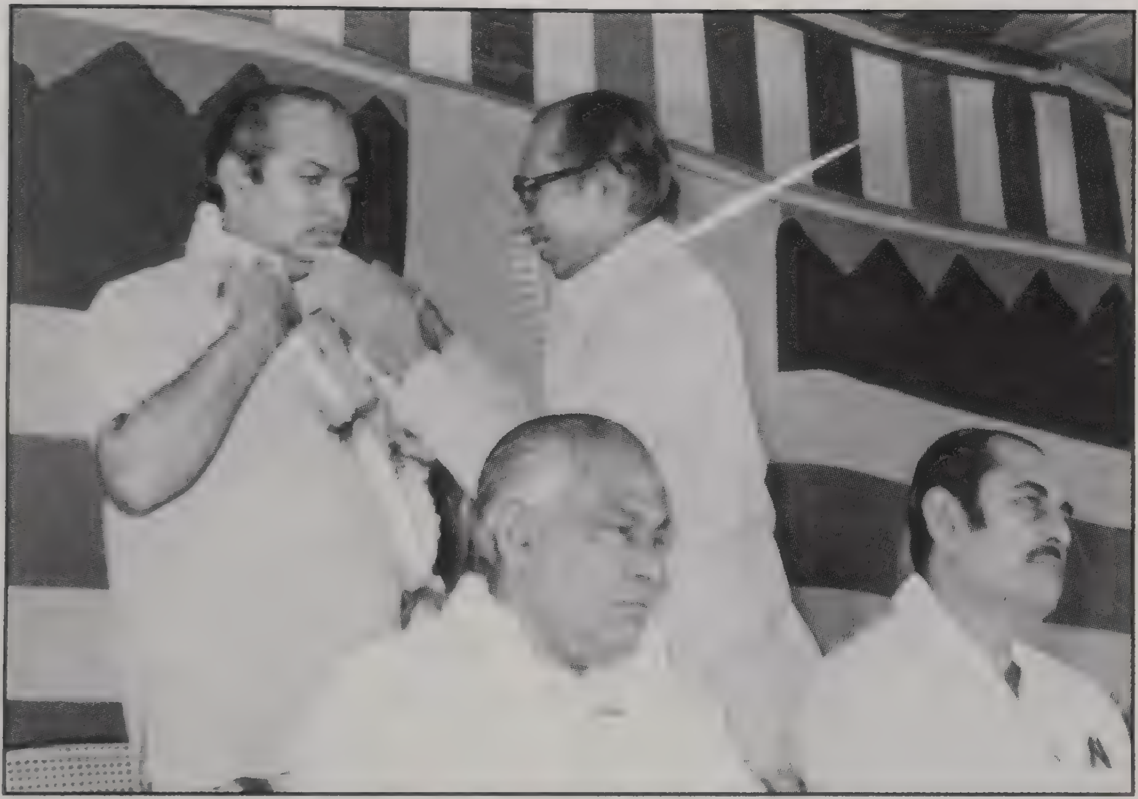
Shri Sitaldasji the then President of Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar with foreign delegates in 1978.

Shri Sitaldasji at a Sindhi felicitation ceremony with Finance Minister Shri Hashu Advani surrounded by beloved janta.

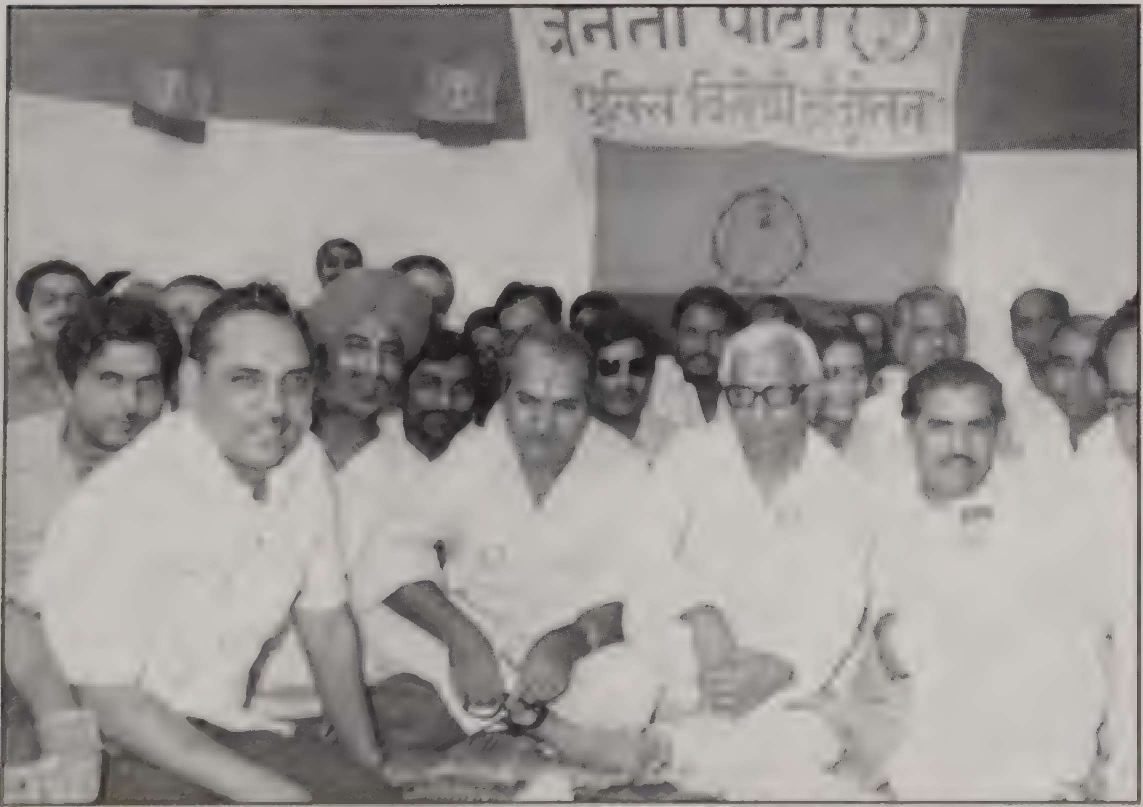
Shri Sitaldasji with Shri Salamatrai Purswani, Shri Kishan Dalwani and Shri P.H. Advani in procession thanking general public on electing him M.L.A. (1978).

Life is Learing process, Sitaldasji inspecting the Power House Plant at Nagpur in 1982, alongwith local MLA's and officials.

Dada alongwith other P.U.C Members inspecting the Power House at Nagpur



Shri Arjun Kukreja garlanding Sitaldasji at Jerapatki colony at Nagpur with him is Shri Hashu Advani Minister of Urban Development and Shri Surve Minister of Rural Development (Govt. Of Maharashtra).

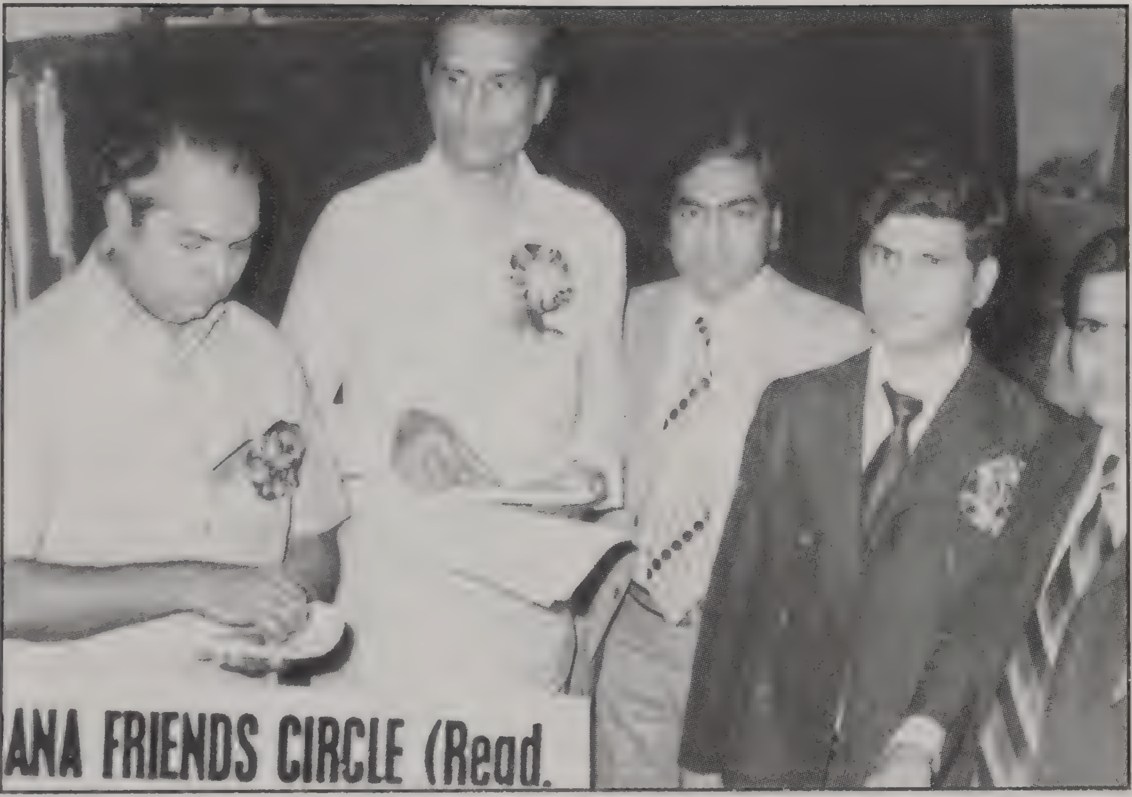


Sitaldasji with Late Shri Dunichand Kalani, Shri Salamatrai Purswani, Shri Kishin Dalwani & other party workers before UNR-1 Police Chowki against deteriorating law and order in Ulhasnagar.

UL NICIPAL COUNCIL
OME

Shri Sharad Pawar Chief Minister of Maharashtra addressing gathering at Shivaji Chowk on inaugration of Chhtrapati Shivaji Maharaj statue on the dias are Sitaldasji on left and on right Shri P.H. Advani President U.M.C., Sabir Shaikh MLA, Shri Jaganath Patil MLA, Shri Ram Kapse MLA, & Shri Daulat Jagiasi Administrator (UNR).

Dada attending B.Ed. College Day function as Chief Guest-Principal Kathorkar, Singh, Ex. Principal, President of Seva Sadan College, Shri Gobindram Punjabi & Principal of RKT Colledge Shri Harisinghani.

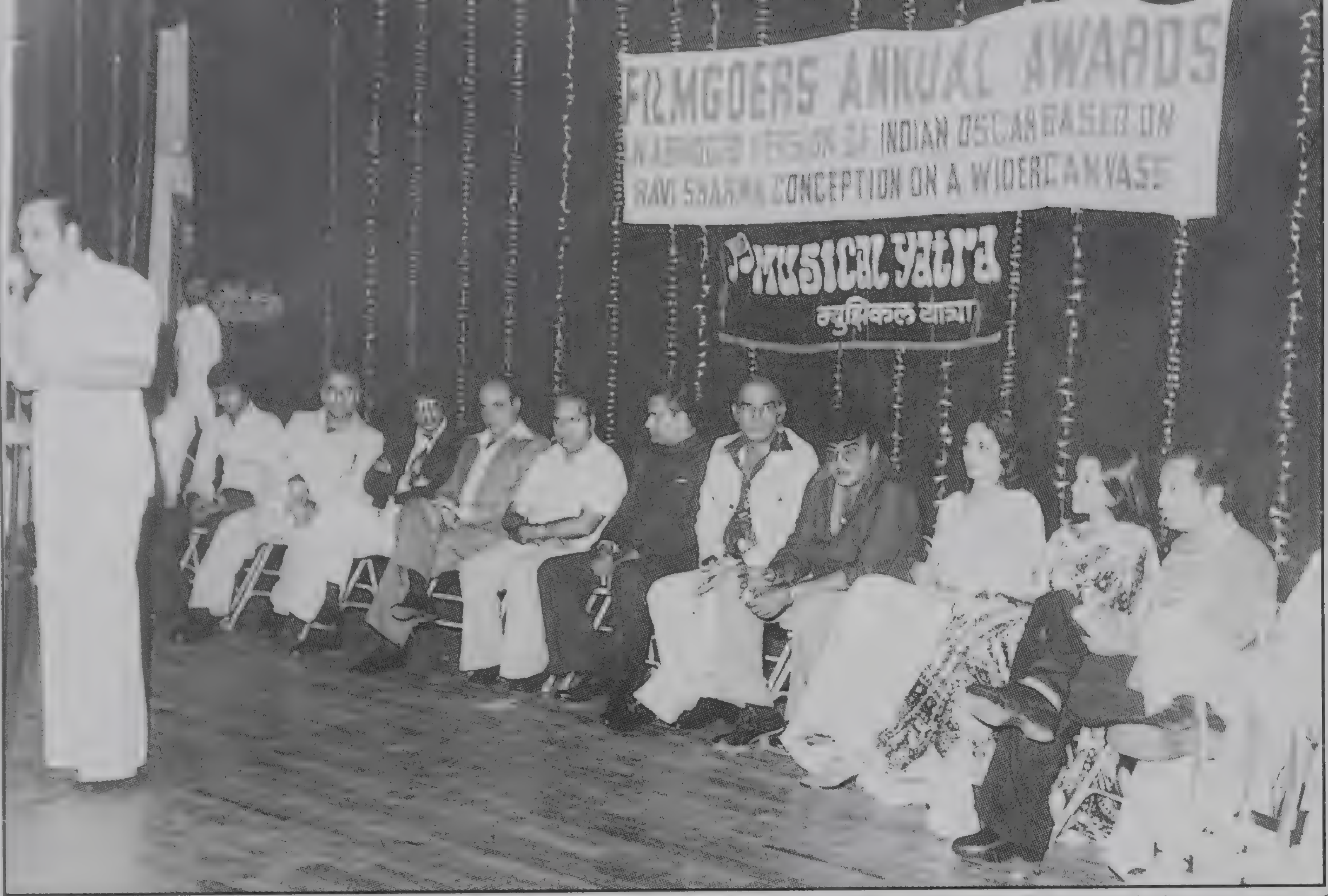

ANA FRIENDS CIRCLE (Read.

Sitaldasji felicitated by Kalpna Friends Circle Shri Govind Rao Adik, Maharashtra Congress President & other office bearers.

Shri Sitaldas with Minister of Maharashtra Govt. Shri Chaudhary, Shri Kale, Dir. Of Public Health & Smt. Chandrika, Suptd. Of Hospital on opening of Cancer Hospital at Nagpur.

Bhai Vaidya then Home Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra addressing the gathering at Sitaldasji's Bunglow, with him is Dr. Issar Parwani

Sitaldasji is distributing prizes at function organised by CHM College, Sindhi Sabha, UNR. With Principal Dayal Asha & Head of Sindhi Dept. Smt. Meena Rupchandani.


FILMGOERS ANNUAL AWARDS
INDIAN OSCAR BASED ON
RAVI SHARMA CONCEPTION ON A WIDER CANVAS
Musical Yatra
म्युझिकल यात्रा

Shoulder and the star of celluloid sharing the same dias Prem Rishi giving vote of Thanks, from L to R are F.C. Mehra, Chandra Barot, Ramanand Sagar, Siatldasji, Dr, Jamkhanwala, (Minister) Yash Chopra, Mehmood, Nutan, Kasturo, Sawan Kumar.

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SUITINGS & SHIRTINGS
WELCOME YOU

Shri Sitaldasji speaking on the opening ceremony function being organized by the Chapru Panchyat L to R Mohan Fatnani, P.H. Advani.

ULHASNAGAR MU
WEL-

Sitaldasji speaking on felicitation programme in honour of Shri Hashu Advani Minister U.D., Govt. of Maharashtra. Shri P.H. Advani on centre dias.

Anything for the poor and needy finds priority in Sitaldasji's agenda, at a fund collection drive for a hospital of Shanti Prakash Ashram on Cheti Chand day, which marks Sindhi New Year on his right Shri Hira Lal Sabhandasani.

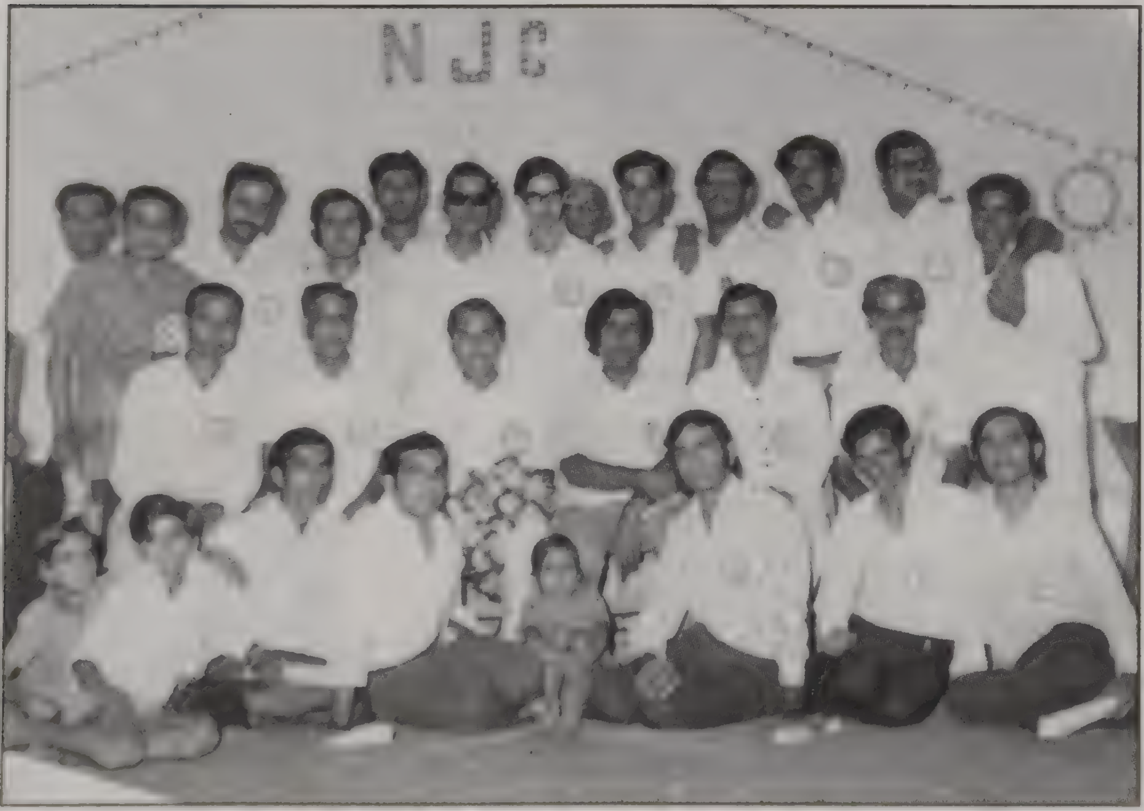
AKTI PIC
TURES ODU

Well Directing for good is my forte. Sitaldasji at a inaugural of Shakti Pictures with a film star.

Function organised by Sindhu Education Soc. Attended by among others Shri Sitaldasji Shri Nari Gursani, Shri Dulhanomal Talreja with Sardar Sant Singh Ochani, President of the Soc. Shri Daulat Jagiasi Chief officer UMC, Shri Gope Behrani, Shri Nevandram.

Addressing Akhil Bhartiya Sindhi Sevak Sammelan at Swami Shanti Prakash Ashram is Sitaldasji. The other dias sharers are Swami Shanti Prakashji Maharaj, Shri Sabaghchand Chawla, Shri Nari Gursani, Shri Pralhad Advani, Shri S. Israni, Ex. MLA. Shri Gope Bhahrani, Shri Dunichand Kalani.

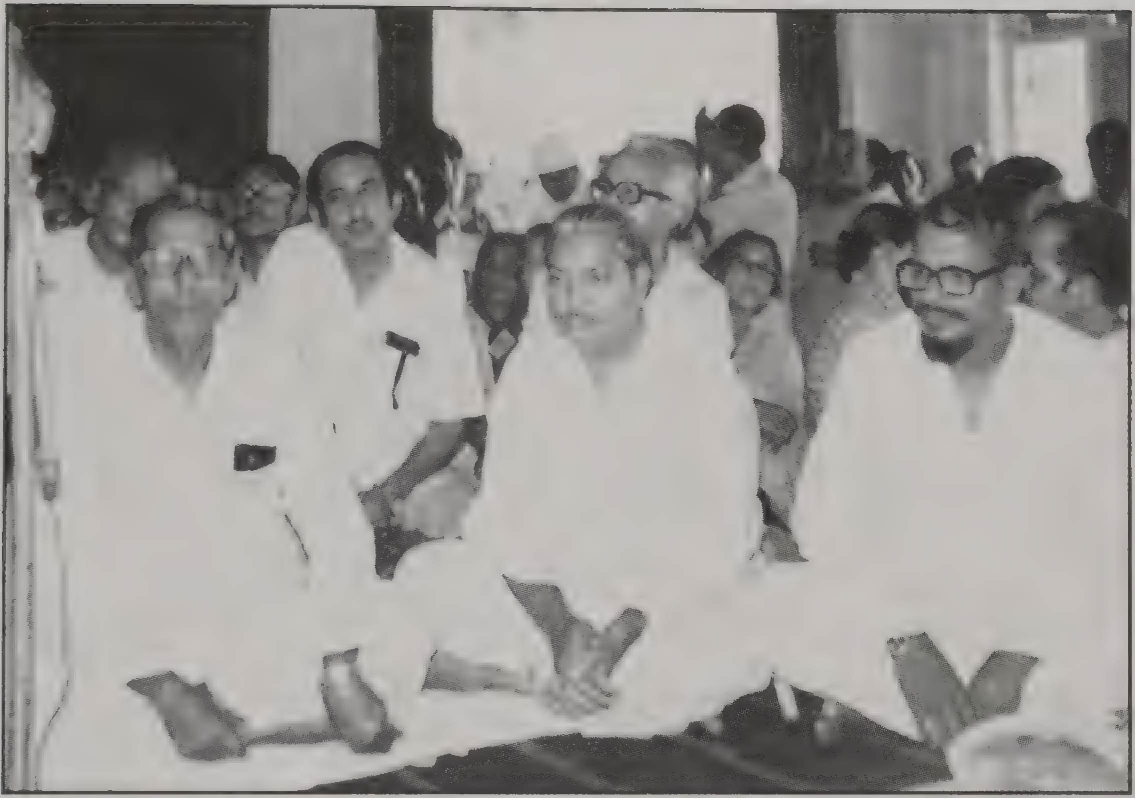
Barrister Hotchand Advani inaugurating the Soveiner of Income Tax Employees Sindhi Sabha at Patkar Hall, Mumbai, with him is Dada and Asst. Comm. of Income Tax.



Members of Nav Jeevan Circle Trust.

Sitaldasji as Chief Guest addressing the gathering at All India Sindhi Samelan (C.H.M College, UNR - 3).

Shri V. Ranganathan, Secretary Revenue & Rahablitation Dept. (Govt. of Maha.) visiting K.C. School for deaf & dumb & Dada seen talking to Smt. H.M. Nerurkar.



Dadaji being MLA alongwith Hashu Advani, MLA, Jagannath Patil, MLA, Gajanan Kohli, MLA, sitting on Dharna at Hutatama Chowk at Mumbai.

Dada at the function at Kali Bari Mandir Trust, Kurla Camp, UNR - 4 alongwith trustees.

Sitaldasji addressing mamoth gathering of Century Rayon workers, UNR-1

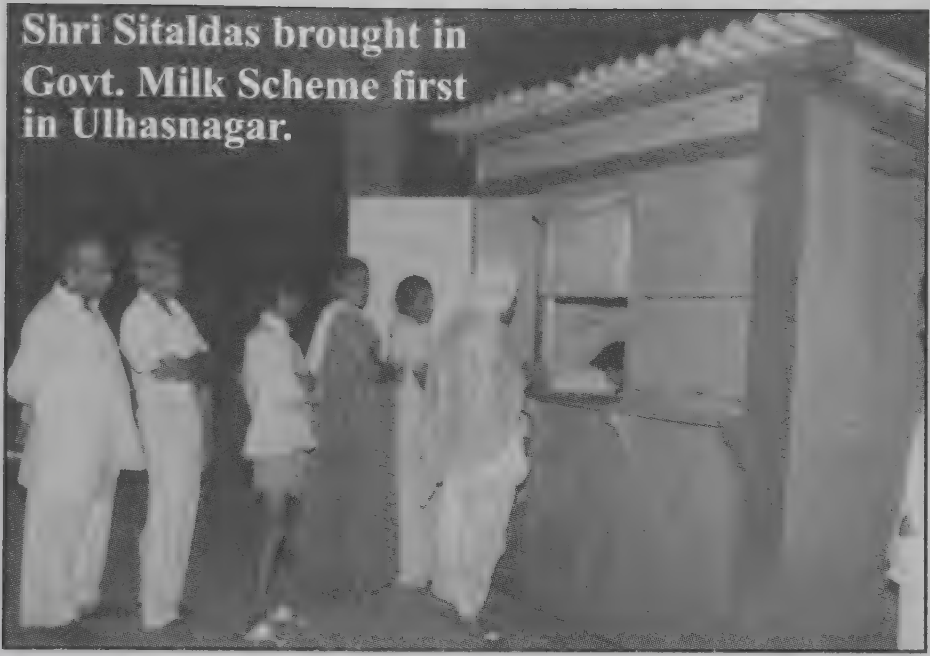
DREAMS FULLFILLED (ACHIVEMENTS)

To combat Water distribution Water Tank to people by Dada.

Cultural need-to have centrally located meeting place Town Hall, UNR-3.

A flyover to facilitate traffic in UNR-1 to Kalyan for convenience, time saving a substantial help in getting the job done by Dada.

DREAMS FULLFILLED (ACHIVEMENTS)



Shri Sitaldas brought in Govt. Milk Scheme first in Ulhasnagar.

Garbage Pumping Station with the efforts of Sitaldasji.

Govt. Guest House, UNR - 5.

202 beds New Central Hospital Building, UNR- 3 following long drawn efforts from Dada.

New Maternity Hospital Building, UNR-4 (50 beds) after constant efforts by Dada.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

Dada's vision

A New Telephone Exchange Building (UNR) to communicate better.

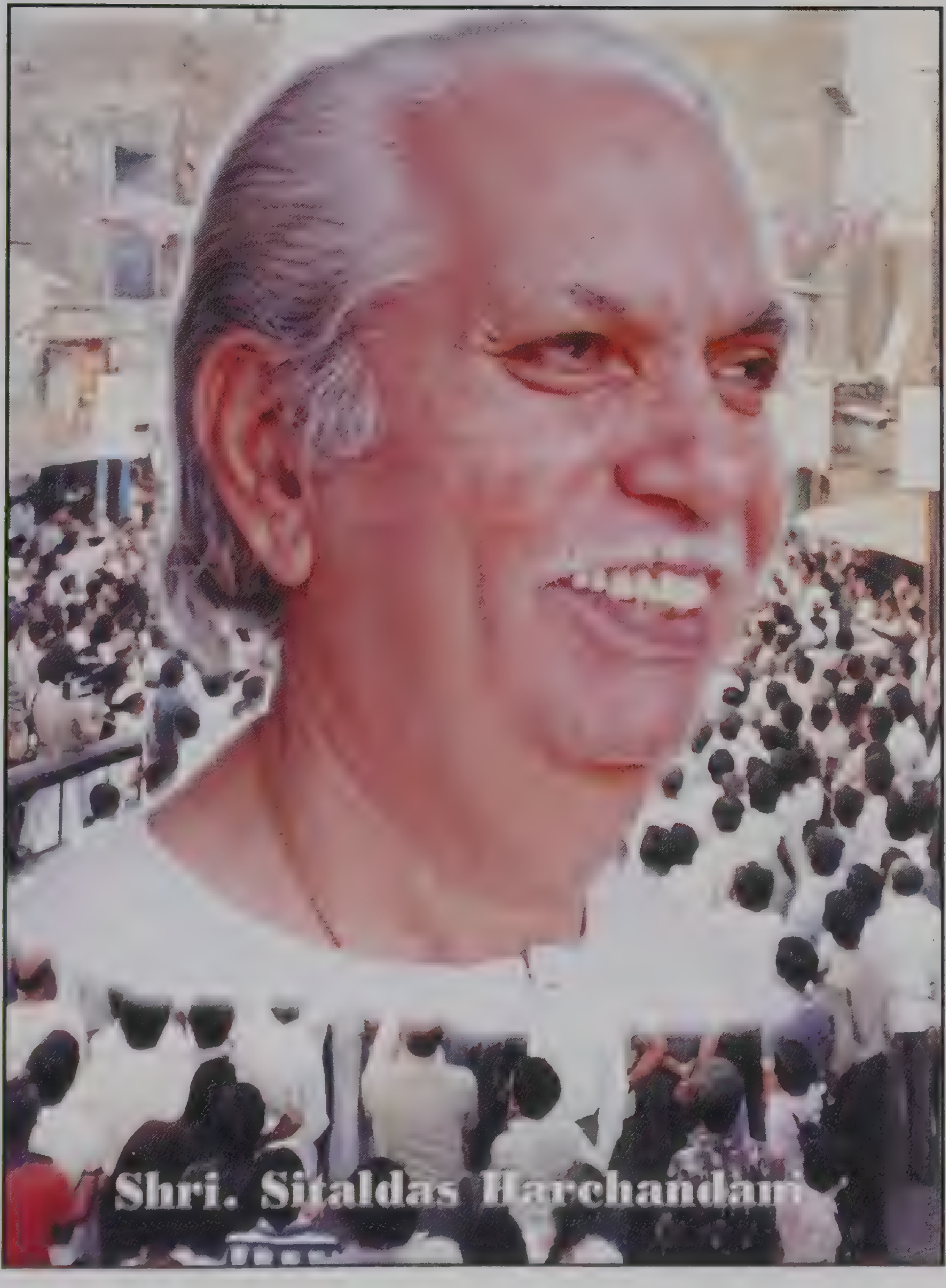
Sports Complex

(Indoor Games)

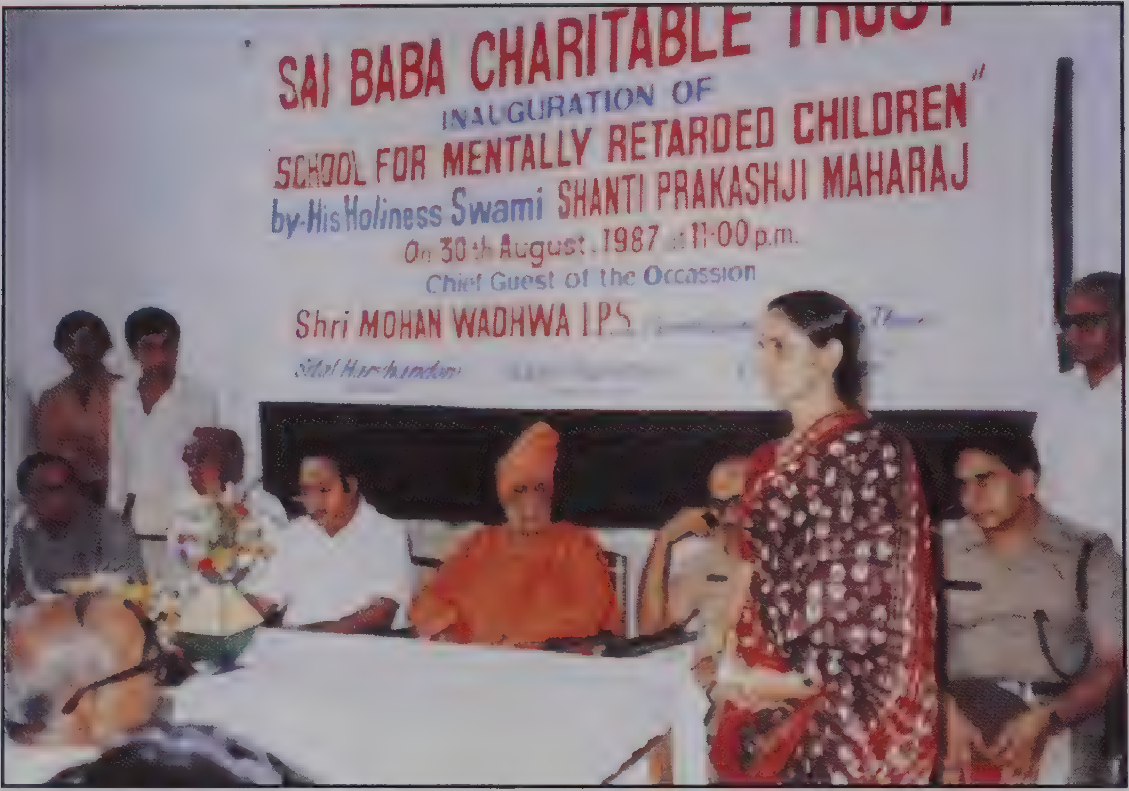
at UNR-4 - Dada's Noble Thought

DREAMS FULLFILLED (ACHIVEMENTS)

Being Real



Shri. Sitaldas Harchandani


SAI BABA CHARITABLE TRUST
INAUGURATION OF
SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN"
by His Holiness Swami SHANTI PRAKASHJI MAHARAJ
On 30th August, 1987 at 11-00 p.m.
Chief Guest of the Occassion
Shri MOHAN WADHWA I.P.S.

Dada sharing the dias with Swami Shanti Prakash, Former Commissioner of Police Mr. Wadhwa and now Comm. of Police S.M. Shingare, on the opening of school for mentally retarded in1987. Mrs. Sudha Gune throwing light on the mentally retarded children.

Inaugural Function of K.C. School for the deaf and dumb, Shri Ram Panjwani on the microphone listening with attention Governor Shri O.P. Mehra, Smt. O.P. Mehra and Shri Sitaldasji.

Mrs. O.P. Mehra (wife of Governor of Maharashtra) receiving a beautiful doll from Shri Sitaldasji.

O.P. MEHR
Air Chief Marshal
O.P. MEHRA.
(GOVERNOR OF
ON 27th Dec 1981
Smt. SATYA MEHRA
ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OPENING CEREMONY OF SCHOOL FOR DEA

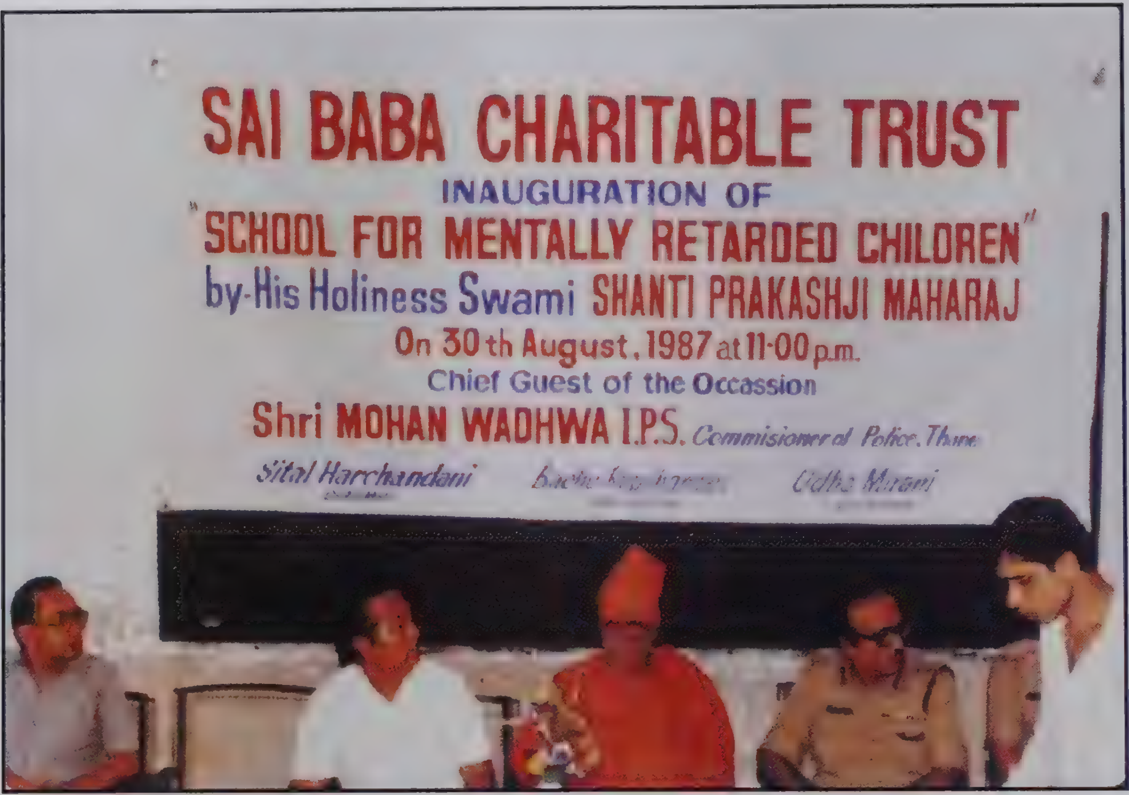
On the occasion of the opening of the deaf and dumb school with the then Governor of Maharashtra Shri O.P. Mehra is Sitadasji.

Discussing about the school, Governor of Maharashtra Shri O.P. Mehra with Sitaldasji.

One trying to Police the other. Shri Sitaldasji with then Commissioner of Police, Thane, Mr. Wadhwa discussing various problems of Ulhasnagar.

Any thing which begins well is half done. Relaxed Sitaldasji with Commissioner then and now. Mr. Wadhwa and Mr. Shingare respectively.

Inauguration of school for deaf and dumb, Shri Sitaldasji with Chairman of Jaslok Hospital, Seth Mathuradas A. Chainaral, Shri T.M.Gehnani and Sheila Dudani.


SAI BABA CHARITABLE TRUST
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Shri MOHAN WADHWA I.P.S. Commisioner of Police, Thane
Sital Harchandani
Odho Mirani

The spiritual, the spirited and the selfless on the opening ceremony of Sai Baba Charitable Trust School for mentally retarded. Swami Shanti Prakashji, the Police Commissioners, Shri Wadhwa, Shri Shingare, and Shri Sitaldasji.

Lighting the lamp, thus enlighting the Society, on tha day of opening the school for mentally retarded Shri. Sitaldasji lending a helping hand to Swami Shanti Prakashji Maharaj, looking at is Shri Dayal Asha.

Presenting a citation in the form of a Chriot to Film Actress Meenakshi Seshadri by Shri Sitaldasji.

Standing tall above all’ Shri Sitaldasji speaking on the occasion of “Sindhi Hindustan Mein” organised by Akil Bhartiya Sindhi Boli Sahitya Prachar Sabha. On the dias are Shri Mohan Gurnani, Shri Ram Panjwani, Shri Baldev Gajra & Pappu Kalani on 10th Feb, 1987.

UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY
DEPARTMENT OF SINDHI
SEMINAR ON "NAZM"
Sunday 1st March 87, At R.K. Talreja College, Ulhasnagar 3

Giving a few gems in form of his words Sitaldasji speaking at a Sindhi Seminar on NAZM on 1st March 1987, at Bombay University (Sindhi Department).

DEPARTMENT OF
SEMINAR ON NAZM

At R.K. Talreja college in UNR, Shri Sitaldasji being felicitated on account of seminar on NAZM on 1st March 1987.

THE PRINCIPAL, STAFF & STUDENTS
Heartly WELCOME
Shri JAGANNATH PATIL.
Shri SABIR SHAIKH.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Sitaldasji at CHM College alongside Hon. Minister of State Shri Jagannath Patil and Sabir sheikh with Dr. Dayal Asha, and Shri Bodhwani, Vice Principal of College.

LAL'S
PRINCIP
PARTMEN

Sitaldasji at a function organised byAkhil Bhartiya Vidhyarthi Parishad at C.H.M. College Ulhasnagar.

"You have done a Herculean job" Mr. Jagannath Patil talking to Mr. Sitaldasji.

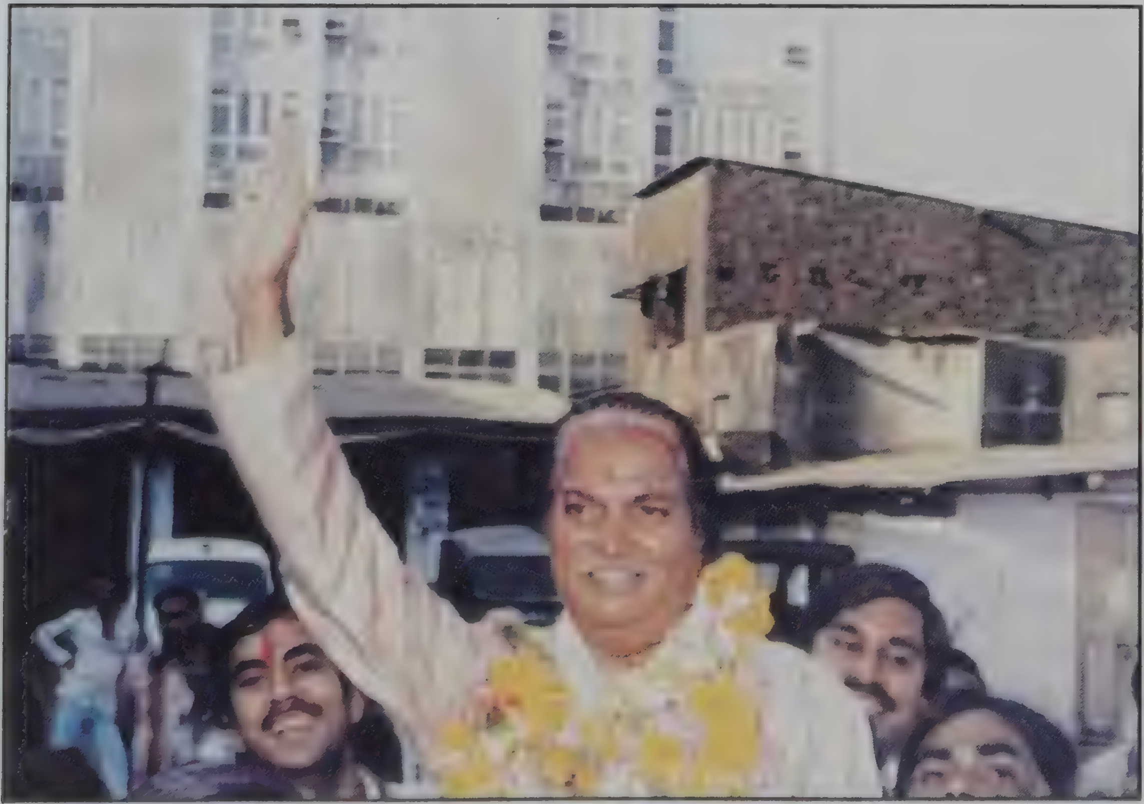
Shri Sitaldasji being Honoured by Principal Dr. Dayal Asha on Sindhi Sahitya Sangam at C.H.M. College seen with them are Shri Gope Rupchandani, Shri Laxman Ahuja.

Student of CHM College on occasion of Sindhi Shitya Sangam, getting these prizes for excellence from Shri Sitaldasji. On the left is Principal K.M. Talreja and right Vice-Principal Dayal Asha.

The two torch bearers of Sindhi Community, sharing lighter moments, Shri L.K. Advani and Shri. Sitaldasji.

Helping to distribute food grain to the poor widows at the Bharati Sanskar Ashram along with the Minister Mr. Vishnu Sav

Sitaldasji thanking all for their overwhelming support.



Assuming that his hands will always be there for the service of mankind, at the culmintion of the victory rally is Sitaldasji.

The man with Midas touch, the occasion his victory lap Sitaldasji on being elected MLA for the second time in 1980 for 2nd time.

For a good cause Shri Sitaldasji knows no borders, inaugurating the Cancer Hospital at Nagpur, sharing the dias is then Health Minister Shri R.S. Savant in 1984.

Welcoming the upcoming Hero of BJP at a party meeting in1982, Shri Pramod Mahajan present Minister of Communications with Sitaldasji.

Shri Sitaldasji releasing a book on Parsram Zia. From left Ramesh Ahuja, Narain Zia, Sahibrao Doulatani on the right Mr. Bedi (Author of the book).

A living Legend garlanding legend of legends Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Seen here is Shri Sitaldasji inaugurating the statue of the great freedom fighter at Ulhasnagar-4.

जनता. प्रेस . पोलिस
के सहकार से
गुंडाशाही समाप्ती
अभियान

At a meeting of Public-Police Sampark Samiti, Sitaldasji with the IGP Shri Shroff, Commissioner of Police Shri Tyagi, MLC Mr. Gupta and Shri P.H. Advani.

For a Noble cause, top people of state or centre came rushing, At a dharna outside UNR Police Station in 1985 against deteriorating law and order situation Sitaldasji with Jagannath Patilji, Narayan Marathe and Pramod Mahajanji.

At the same dharna with Pramod Mahajan, focused for the cause is Shri Sitaldas Harchandani.

A Sindhi Legend from centre Shri L.K. Advani giving unshakable support for the candidature of Shri Sitaldas Harchandani, *ANOTHER LEGEND.*

Police felicitating Politics at the opening ceremony of Central Police Station, that started with the efforts of Shri Sitaldasji. The then Police Commissioner Mr. R.D. Tyagi and looking on Mr. Shroff.(IGP Maharashtra).

Occasion is Sant Sammelan, Shri Sitaldasji speaking and hearing with rapt attention Sai Atmaram Sahib, Swami Naraindas Sahib, Right: Shri Gope Behrani, Shri Nari Gursani Shri Sabhagchand Chawla.

INTERN
PA AY

N. Sanjeeva Reddy then Governor of Maharashtra with his wife, Presenting a citation for the great social work done by Shri Sitaldasji at Raj Bhavan in the centre is Nari Gursani, President International Sindhi Federation.

ULHASNAGAR MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WEL-COME
Shri RAM B. JETHMALANI

At the function organised by UMC for unveiling the statue of Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukerji from the left Sitaldasji, Shri Ramdas Naik, M.L.A. & Chairman standing committee, BMC, Shri Notandas Khubchandani, Shri Prahlad Advani President of the then UMC Shri Daulat Jagiasi, Administrator of Ulhasnagar Township.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WEL COMES
Shri R.K. KARANJIA
Blitz
ROAD NAMING OF CEREMONY: SHANTINAGAR
LATE SHRI A.V. NARAYAN
BLITZ

Sitaldasji participating in naming of Road Ceremony in memory of Late Shri A.V. Narayan, Sub Editor of Blitz in 1984 with Smt. A.V. Narayan, Shri R.K. Karanjia, Editor Blitz, Shri. R.S. Sawant Administrator of UMC.

Lighting the lamp for inaugural function organised by Central Hospital Staff By Sitaldasji.

In 1989 addressing a select gathering of Sales Promotion Panchayat. Sitaldasji greeting Social Worker Shri Minhomal.

Function for the Journalists Shri Sitaldasji with, in extreme right Mr. Raju Gaikwad, Shri Padmakar Vispute, others present are Shri Nari Gursani Dr. Dayal Asha, Shri Assandas Bherwani, freedom fighter.

Rajat Jayanti Varsha being celebrated by LIC of India, Sitaldasji wishing them all the success for the future.

Krantikari Shri Vasantrao Naik's birthday being celebrated by Vanjari Vikas Parishad at Ulhasnagar-1, Shri Sitaldasji addressing the gathering.

मध्यवर्ती रुग्णालय
रक्त पेढीचे उद्घाटन

At the inaugural function of Blood Camp at UNR-3 in 1985, Sitaldasji is being garlanded by Shri K.M. Patil, Superintendent of Central Hospital, other present are Mr. Manohar Jeswani, Editor Desh Bhagat, Shri Doulatram Mangtani, Shri Dharmdas Lakhani.

Speaking on the occasion of changing the name of Ulhasnagar to Sindhunagar Shri Sitaldasji at Sindhu Nagar Jagrit Mandal Manch. Mohan Fatnani, Ram Kapse Ex. MP. Shri Shyam Gurnani.

ULHASNAGAR EDITORS ASSOCIATION

Ulhasnagar Editors Forum felicitating Sitaldasji at a function organised by them.

Sitaldasji checking out the programme with Superintendent of Central Hospital Ulhasnagar-3.

Going to board on a foreign study tour, Shri Sitaldasji is felicitated by Nav Jeevan Bank Manager Shri Bhatia.

"You are the Best Nurse" so you should be awarded, doing just that at Central Hospital is Sitaldasji.

INAU FUNCTION
NEPC TELEV ON VIEW PANEL

Presenting award to Chairman Mr. Ravi Prakash of the NEPC Television Viewers Panel Chief Shri Sitaldasji.

Shri Sitaldasji is releasing a Book written by Ms. Popti Hiranandani seen on his left are Narain Bharti, Mr. Chugani, Mr. Hari Motwani on the right are Mr. Hardas Makhija, Mr. Tekchand Mast and Mr. Ram Bakshani.

A selfless helping hand for the needy. Sitaldasji handing over free ration food grains on behalf of Sindhu Varsha foundation at Bhartiya Sanskar Ashram in Ulhasnagar-3.

With Minister of Health, Govt. Of Maharashtra Dr. Ahire, Shri Sitaldasji inspecting the Central Hospital

Discussing the difficulties of the commuters with ADRM Mr. Gupta is Shri Sitaldasji on the Ulhasnagar Railway Station.

ओ३म
दयानन्द आर्य कन्या महाविद्यालय

Head Mistress giving her brief of High School, Nagpur on her right is Shri Sitaldas, Shri Ram Kapse, Shri Arjun Kukreja & Minister of U.D.D.

Soaring his popularity beyond the borders, Mr. Sital Harchandani with British Bankers during the study tour of Co-op. Banks at London.

At the prize distribution of Nav Jeevan Bank, left side of Sitaldasji, Bhagu Talreja is giving citation to Dinesh Harchandani for coming in merit list of H.S.C.

Sitaldasji handingover the prize to merit students at Nagpur Vidyalaya.

Shri Sitaldasji seen engrossed on certain job.

Opening of account by Swami Shanti Prakash at Siru Chowk Branch of Nav Jeevan Bank-Sitaldasji receiving cash from Swamiji.

Gadesar of Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj, Shri Dev Prakashji opening an account with Nav Jeevan Co-op Bank UNR-4 branch on its opening Shri Sitaldasji lends a helping hand.

Shri Sitaldas felicitating Dy. P.M Shri L.K. Advani on 4.8.2001 at Sanskar Ashram, Ulhasnagar.

Maharashtra
Medical
Practitioners'
Association

Shri Sitaldas presiding over function of Maharashtra Medical Practioners.

Dadaji Chairman of Nav Jeevan Co-op. Bank (UNR) discussing with Shri Wamanrao Sathe Chairman of Kalyan Janta Sahakari Bank.

Receiving the big Birthday Greeting Card 3x 2’ from Shri Lal Punjabi one of the Directors of Nav Jeevan Bank also in picture is Mr. Nanik Uchlani, Manager.

CO-OPERATIVE
INAUGURATION 5TH BRANCH FULLY COMPUTE
TUESDAY 30TH MARCH-99 AT 10 AM.
Mr GOPINATH MUNDE
CHIEF GUEST
Mr VISHNU
HADEVRAO SHIVANKAR
GUEST OF HONOUR
SHRI RAM KAPSE
PRANJPE
GANNATH PATIL

Dada speaking on the occassion of opening of Fountain Bank Branch sitting on his left is Prof. Ram Kapse (Ex.MP.).

hri Sitaldasji Greeting Shri Bhagwan Rao Joshi, R.S.S Member on his Birthday.

THE NAVJEEVAN Co-Op.
BANK LTD. ULHASNAGAR
15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
ON 13th / ST.2000

Sitaldasji addressing 16th Annual General Body Meeting
of Nav Jeevan Co. Op. Bank with him is B.B. Rupchandani
d on his left Mr. Ghanshyam Bhatia Dr. Kanahiyalal Nathani,
Smt. Komal Jani & Lakshmi Asrani the Directors.

Sitaldasji alongwith Shri Hundraj Bhatia, Director of Nav Jeevan Co-op Bk. Visiting Poonam Shopping Complex, Nagpur meeting his old friend Shri Rupchand.

Sitaldasji with Sai Atmaram Sahib on the occassion of opening A/c in Nav Jeevan Bank, Chopra Court Branch.

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SUITINGS & SHIRTINGS
WELL YOU

Shri Sitaldasji addressing Puj Chhapru Panchayat, UNR. With
Shri P.H. Advani President UNR. Mun. Council, Shri Mohan Fatnani.

mation & Brodcasting Govt. OF INDIA
NING CEREMONY OF
NS & TILSONS ENTERPRISES OFFICE
ULHASNAGAR 3

hri Sitaldasji with Shri Sanmukh Israni, Ex. MLA., Shri Daulatram
Mangtani Industrialist.

Dada discussing with Madhu Mehta, President of Hindustan Andolan Samati regarding Ulhasnagar problems.

Shri Govind Sarup, Culture Secretary, Film City Govt. of Maha. seen with Sitaldasji Chairman of the Bank Shri Hiralal Subhandasani on opening ceremony of Siru Chowk Branch of Nav Jeevan Bank.

SHRI SITAL HARCHANDANIJI

Shri Hardas Makhija-Mayor of UMC helping Shri Sitaldas in cutting 67th birthday cake with him is Shri Ghanshyam Bhatia then Chairman of Nav Jeevan Bank.

Sitaldasji falicitated on his 68th Birthday.

69th
HAPPY
BIRTH DAY
CELEBRATIONS

Sitaldasji celebrating his 69th Birthday alongwith members of Nav Jeevan Circle Trust.

Shri Sitaldasji, Chairman, Nav Jeevan Bank distributing coins to Ulhasnagar Traders (when coins/change was in short supply) alongwith Dada is Shri R.M. Deoule, Gen. Manager of RBI and Shri Anandprakash, Dy. Gen. Manager, other officers of RBI & Smt. Komal Jani, Director of Nav Jeevan Bk.

Shri Sitaldasji telling in brief the history of Nav Jeevan Bank to Hon'ble Shri Basavraj Patil (Minister of Rural Dev., Govt. of Mah.) Also seen are Shri Lal Punjabi, Kum. Lachhami Israni, Dr. Manohar Makhija & Shri Hundraj Bhatia (Directors).

Sitaldasji welcoming Shri Basavraj Patil, Minister of Rural Dev. (Govt. Of Mah.) In Ulhasnagar.

At Dada's Birthday Shri Chetumal Watwani is seen wishing him A Happy Birthday.

Swami Shanti Prakash Maharaj is seen opening A/c. In Nav Jeevan Bank, Siru Chowk Branch - Dada helping Swamiji.

Old friends embracing - though different political idealogies, Shri Dunichand Kalani and Dada Sitaldasji.

Sitaldasji handingover a certificate of merit to the Best Nurse in Central Hospital, UNR.

Shri S. M. Shingare Police Commissioner addressing the gathering at Holi Cross High School, Kalyan - Sitaldasji is the Chief Guest on this occassion.

Dada cutting the ribbon to inaugurate opening of Blood Bank at Central Hospital, UNR., On his left Shri Daulatram Mangtani Industrialist & Social Worker on his right Shri Dharamdas Lakhani Congress President.

Dadaji present MLA with Ex. MLA Shri Sanmukh Israni at opening of Tilsons Enterprises.

Dada felicitating Shri Bhagwanrao Joshi veteran RSS worker & proprietor of B.P. Joshi Transport, Kalyan on opening ceremony of Chopra Court Branch of Nav Jeevan Bank.

Shri Atmaram Saheb felicitating Sitaldasji on opening of Chopra Court Branch of Nav Jeevan Bank.

Dadaji garlanding Shahid Hemu Kalani's murti at the time of Fountain Bank
Br. Opening of Nav Jeevan Bk.

Sitaldasji receiving a momento from Chairman of Konkan Nagrik Sahakari Bank's Assn. For being the best bank of the year 1993.

1987

Sitaldasji with famous film actress Meenakshi Seshadri on Fund Raising for Sai Baba Educational Trust in the year 1987.

Victorious Shri Sitaldasji on his 3rd MLA election held in 1985 with his brother Shri Jethanand Harchandani and other party workers.

Sai Ruparam Saheb and Sai Naraiandas Saheb blessing Dadaji on opening of UNR-1 Nav Jeevan Bank Branch.

Dada presenting the momento to Smt. Savitri Chhabria, Mun. Councillor.

Shri Uchlani, Sr. Manager Nav Jeevan Bank felicitating Dadaji on his 69th Birthday.

Shri Vilas Desai President of Konkan Nagari Sahakari Bank's Assn. felicitating Dadaji on his Birthday.

Shri Sitaldasji presenting momento to Hon'ble Shri Ved Prakash Goel (Minister of Shipping,Govt. Of India) on the eve of Computerisation at Main Br. Of Nav Jeevan Bk., UNR.

Hon'ble Minister of Shipping, Govt. Of India Shri Ved Prakash opening A/c himself on the computer also seen are Shri Narayanrao Marathe, Shri RaghunathKulkarni, Dadaji, Branch Managers Shri Tewani & Mrs. Pushpa Lakhani.

Dadaji as Chief Guest at opening of Blood Bank in Central Hospital, UNR-3 on his right Shri Daulatram Mangtani, President of UNR. Mffrs. Assn., Dharamdas Lakhani, President UNR. Taluka Congress Shri M.P. Patil, Suptd. Of Hospital.

Dada lighting the lamp at Nav Jeevan, Chopra Court Br. On the occassion of Computerisation of bank (9.11.02) Complete 6 Branches - a Dream fulfilled.

A Dream come true. This is Nav Jeevan Bank, Main Branch, after visiting a foreign bank at London, Dada had this vision for Nav Jeevan, this dream has come true. Above model is replica of foreign culture.

YOUNG SPORTS SOCIAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION
Y.S.S.W.A.
ULHASNAGAR

ry Single Award speaks for itself for Dada good work is always appreciated......!

A Fully Computerised Nav Jeevan Bank, UNR-3 Main Branch.

SHRI SITAL HARCHANDANIJI
A PROMINENT PERSONALITY OF ULHASNAGAR CITY IS BEING
Sir!

Sitaldasji celebrating 67th Birthday on his (L - R) Dinesh (Son), Jawahar (Son-in-law), Meena (Daughter), Suresh (Nephew) & Grandsons Bittu & Tinku.

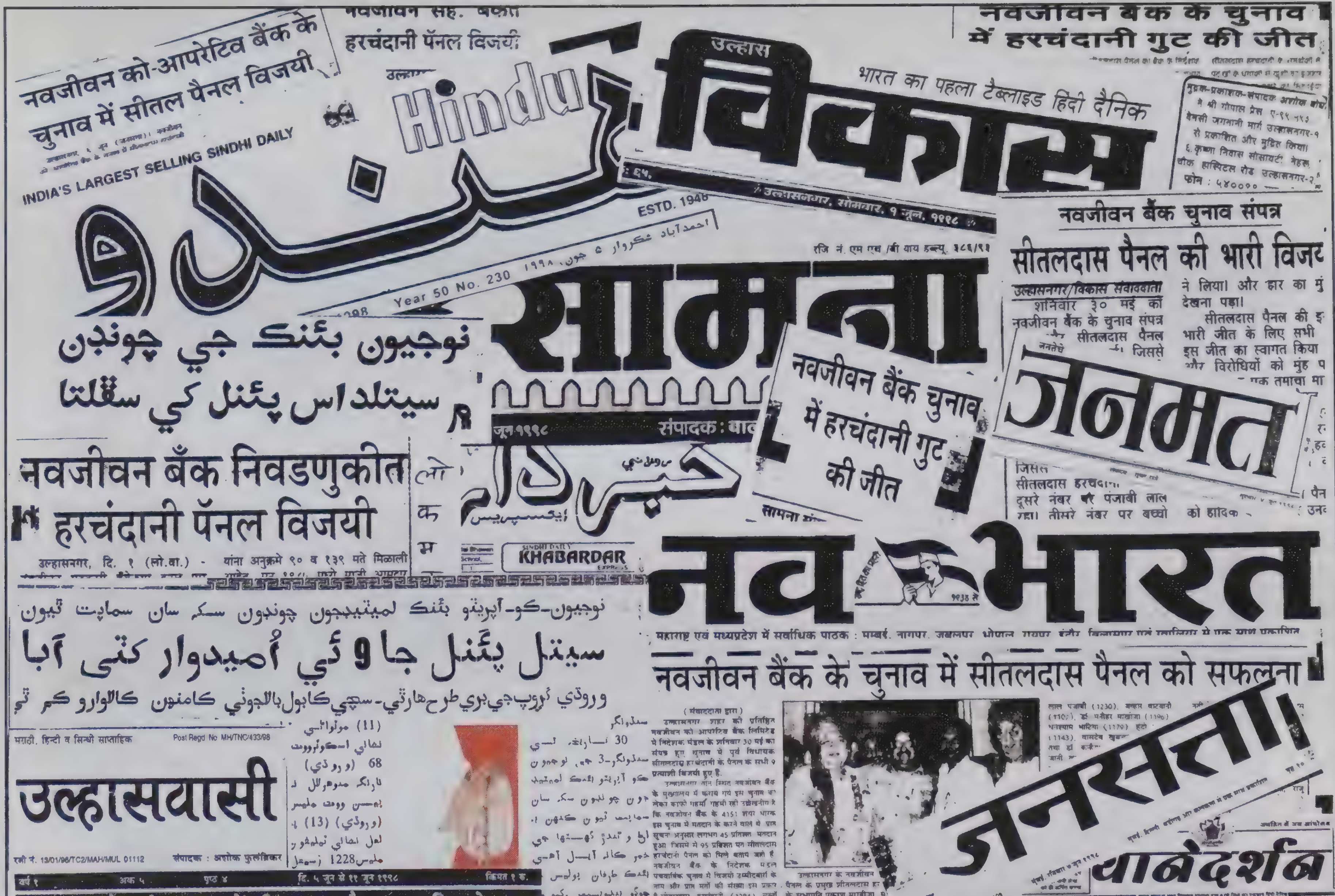
Nav Jeevan Co-op. Bank's Directors with Dadaji, from L - R Dr. Nathani, Shri Ghanshyam Bhatia, Kum. Lachhmi Asrani, Smt. Komal Jani, Shri Hundraj Bhatia - & on the back is Shri Vinod Dhankani (Bank's Auditor).

Swami Shastriji came Himself from (Swami Narain Mandir) to see good work & bless Dada.

Staldasji with Dharampatni Smt. Indra.

Shri Sitaldasji alongwith wife Smt. Indira performing the Satyanarayan Pooja in Main Branch of Nav Jeevan Bk. At the time of computerisation & Airconditioning.

Dada always is in News for good work for City........!



नवजीवन को-आपरेटिव बैंक के चुनाव में सीतल पैनल विजयी

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नवजीवन बँक निवडणुकीत हरचंदानी पॅनल विजयी

उल्हासनगर, दि. १ (लो.वा.) - यांना अनुक्रमे ९० व १३९ मते मिळाली

नवजीवन सह. बँका हरचंदानी पॅनल विजयी

उल्हास

विकास

भारत का पहला टैब्लाइड हिंदी दैनिक

उल्हासनगर, सोमवार, १ जून, १९९८

सामना

जून १९९८ संपादक :

नवजीवन बैंक चुनाव में हरचंदानी गुट की जीत

खबरदार एक्सप्रेस

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रजि नं. एम एच /बी वाय डब्ल्यू. ३८६/९१

नवजीवन बैंक चुनाव संपन्न

सीतलदास पैनल की भारी विजय

उल्हासनगर/विकास संवाददाता शनिवार ३० मई को नवजीवन बैंक के चुनाव संपन्न ... सीतलदास पैनल ... जिससे ... ने लिया। और हार का मुंह देखना पड़ा। सीतलदास पैनल की इस भारी जीत के लिए सभी इस जीत का स्वागत किया और विरोधियों को मुंह पर ... एक तमाचा मा...

जनमत

जिसमें ... सीतलदास हरचंदानी ... दूसरे नंबर पर पंजाबी लाल रहा। तीसरे नंबर पर बच्चो को हादिक ...

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वर्ष १ अंक ५ पृष्ठ ४ दि. ५ जून से ११ जून १९९८ किंमत १ रु.

नव भारत

महाराष्ट्र एवं मध्यप्रदेश में सर्वाधिक पाठक : मुम्बई, नागपुर, जबलपुर, भोपाल, रायपुर, इंदौर, बिलासपुर एवं ग्वालियर से एक साथ प्रकाशित

नवजीवन बैंक के चुनाव में सीतलदास पैनल को सफलता

उल्हासनगर शहर की प्रतिष्ठित नवजीवन को आपरेटिव बैंक लिमिटेड के निदेशक मंडल के शनिवार 30 मई को संपन्न हुए चुनाव में पूर्व विधायक सीतलदास हरचंदानी के पैनल के सभी 9 प्रत्याशी विजयी हुए हैं।

जनसत्ता

पानेदर्शन

ڪئي آهي. آءُ ڪيترن نمونن سان محنت ڪش ماڻه
جي، وديارٿين جي واهر ڪندو رهان ٿو ۽ پنهنجو ڪاري
ڪنهن بہ سوارٿ ڀاونا ڪانسواءِ ڪندو اچان ٿون. ائير
ڪندي هڪڙي ئي اِڇا آهي پنهنجو جيون سڦل بڻايان
وڌيڪ آءُ پنهنجن ڀائرن ڀينرن جون شڀ اڇائون
آسيسون گهران ٿو، جيئن پنهنجو سيوا ڪاريہ ڪند
سرهو رهان ۽ لوڪن جي ڀلائي ڪندو رهان.

ڌنيواد

اوهان جو قربدار يا

سيتل هرچندائي

* * *

ڪيو آهي. اهو منهنجي ساٿين ڪتاب ۾ ذڪر ڪيو آهي. مون کي پنهنجي ڪاريہ جو جس پڻ مليو آهي. مون جيڪو ڪاريہ ڪيو آهي انهيءَ ڪاريہ ڪندي، جيڪي مون تڪليفون سٺيون آهن ۽ وري ساڳي وقت ڪاريہ ۾ سڦل ٿيندي، جيڪا خوش مون کي ملندي هئي، اها منهنجي دل تي چاٽي. شايد اهي دل جي بابت جو آءٌ اظهار ڪري ڪونہ ٿو سگهان.

آءٌ رڳو اهو ئي وشواس سان چوان ٿو تہ منهنجي دل ۾ پنهنجي شهر سنڌونگر کي خوشحال بستي بڻايان، اهڙو اُتم ويچار هردم اندر ۾ رهي ٿو. انهيءَ ويچار کي وٺي، مون نوجيون بئنڪ جو بنياد وڌو، جنهن جي سيوائن سان شهر جو وڪاس ٿئي پيو. شهر جي عام لوڪن کي واپارين کي مالي سهڪار ۽ لون سهوليتون ڏيون پيا. سائين بابا ايڊيوڪيشن ٽرسٽ وسيلي، اپاهجن جي سيوا ڪريان پيو. الهاسنگر ونلواڙي پئسينجر ائسوسئيشن ذريعي ريلوي ياترا ڪندڙ جي سهوليت لاءِ ڪاريہ ڪندو هلان ٿو. مون عام جي سيوا ڀلاءَ لاءِ مانوَ متر منڊل جو نرماڻ پڻ ڪيو آهي. ساڳي وقت شهر جي ٽريڊ ڪامرس واڌاري لاءِ، اسان الهاسنگر چيمبرس آف ڪامرس ۽ انڊسٽري سروس پڻ شروع

سياست ۾ سوچي سمجهي قدم رکيو. راڄنيتي
جنسنگهه جي منچ تان مون قدم کنيو، چو ته شروع ڪا
منهنجي اندر ۾ آر.ايس.ايس (R.S.S.) ۽ هندتوَ ج
سنسڪار سمايل هئا، وڏن کان مريادا ۾ هلڻ به مو
سکيو هو. زماني کان به مون چڱي طرح پاڻ کي پر
رکي، نوس ڪاريه ۽ سماجڪ بهبوديءَ لاءِ ڪاريه آرن
ڪري ڇڏيا. مان جيئن جيئن قدم اڳتي رکيو ته مو
کي صحيح دڳه ۽ دشا پنهنجو پاڻ ملندي ويئي، ٿ
سگهي ٿو ته اڳلا پٽيه هئا يا منهنجن وڏن جا سنسڪ
۽ آسيس هئي. آءُ ڪڏهن به زماني جي گردش
ڦاسي پنهنجي راهه تان ڪڏهن ڪونه ڀٽڪيس، ڪڏه
الٽي راهه ڪونه پڪڙي. سچ ۽ سيوا جي راهه هلن
رهيس. مان انهيءَ راهه تان هلندي، قدرت جو و
ڪرم ۽ مهر مون مٿان هردم رهي ۽ مان سڦلتا ج
چوٽيءَ تائين پهست. اج به جيڪو ڪاريه يا پبلڪ
وهنوار ڪريان پيو، مونکي جڻ مالڪ پيو گائيڊ ڪر
۽ آءُ پيو هلان عام جي سيوا ڪندو ٿو رهان.

منهنجي دل ۾ ارمان ۽ تمنائون، اج به گهٽيو
آهن. ساندهه ٽي دفعا مهاراشٽر اسيمبلي ۾ ايم.ايل.اي
رهندي مون پنهنجي شهر سنڌونگر لاءِ ڪجهه ڪار

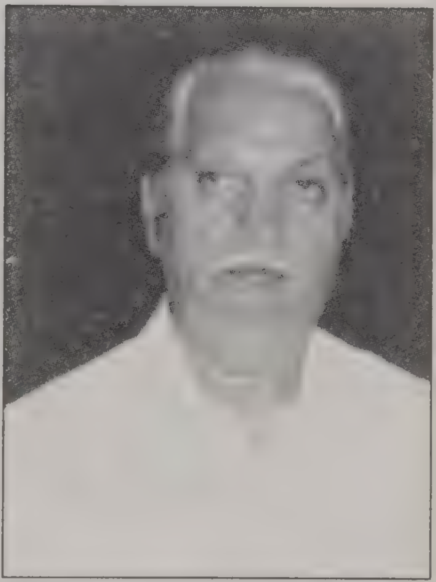
اُهي پڻ ڪجهه قلمبند ڪري ڏيو تہ ڪتاب اندر آڻيون، جيئن عام کي وڏيڪ ڄاڻ ملي.''

اهو ٻڌي من چيو، ''ادل آءٌ تہ ڪرم ۽ ڪاريہ ڪرڻ ۾ ئي سدا وشواس پئي رکيو آهي''، تنهن هوندي بہ مون ''آنند'' کي چيو، ''ڀائي آءٌ پنهنجيءَ دل کان پڇندو ٿو وڃان ۽ ساڳي وقت بيان ڪندس، منهنجا لفظ ۽ ويچار بس قلمبند ڪندا وڃو، اجهو ائين پوءِ سلسلو جاري ٿيو.''

''ها، تہ منهنجو جنم سنڌ جي ڪجهه چڙهيل ڪٽنب پريوار ۾ ٿيو پر ورهاڱي بعد جيئن سڀني سنڌي ڀائرن کي وڏين تڪليفن ۽ مصيبتن مان ۽ غريبيءَ مان لنگهڻو پيو، تيئن هي بندو پڻ انهيءَ نرواسيءَ ڪاروان ۾ هڪ رواجي انسان جيان هلندو هليو، پر پنهنجي راهہ ۽ دشا مون ڪجهه الڳہ سوچي ڇڏي ۽ ان مطابق قدم اڳتي هلندا رهيا.

مون بي.اي. (B.A.) تائين تعليم حاصل ڪري ممبئي جي ملڪ اسڪيم ۾ نوڪري ڪئي، مگر منهنجو مقصد نوڪري ڪرڻ ڪين هو. مان پنهنجي منزل ڪجهه اور سوچي رکي هئي. پوءِ آءٌ، عام جي سيوا ۽

سپ جو پلو سدائين چاهيان ٿو



✍ سيتل هرچنداڻي

مون، پنهنجي اندر ۾ پڪو پهه ڪيو آهي تہ ”سپ جو پلو سدائين سوچيان.“ فقط سوچيان ئي نہ بلڪ ڪندو پڻ رهان، اها جڻ مون پنهنجي جيون جي نيتي بڻائي رکي آهي، شل مالڪ انهيءَ مريادا ۾ مونکي هلائيندو رهي.

منهنجي مترن منهنجو ٦٩ جنم دن ملهايو هو، ان وقت ڪن عزيز دوستن ظاهر ڪيو تہ ”سيتل جي ڪيل ڪارين کي ڪتاب جي ورقن ۾ آندو وڃي.“ اهو ويچار تہ واجب هو، مگر مون سوچيو، ”منهنجو ڪاريہ تہ اڃا جاري آهي ۽ جاري رهندو ....“ آءُ پريوءَ در اهائي پرارٿنا ڪندو آهيان تہ جان جيئان، خلق جي خدمت ڪندو رهان. خير ڪتاب تہ اڃي تيار ٿيو پر پوءِ ڪتاب جي سمپادڪ صاحب ٻڌايو تہ ”سيتلداس توهان هيترو لنبو عرصو لوڪن جي سيوا ڪاريہ ۾ لهہ وچڙ ۾ رهيا آهيو، ڪيترا آزمودا ۽ دل ۾ ويچار ۽ امنگهہ هوندا،

ھن وقت ستر سالن جي عمر به ھن شخص سماجڪ، سوشل ۽ سياسي طور تي ڪاريه ڪندو رھي ٿو. ھن نوجيون بئنڪنگ سسٽم سان الھاسنگر جي ڪامرس ۽ ٽريڊ کي جيڪا ھٿي ڏني آھي اھا پڻ ساراه جوڳي آھي. پنھنجي خيال ۾ اھڙا انسان سماج سيوڪ ڪڏھن ڪڏھن جنم وٺندا آھن. اسين چاھيون ٿا ته ايشور ھنکي سٺي صحت ڏي ۽ سماج جي ڀلائي لاءِ ڪاريه ڪندو رھي. پنھنجو منش جيون سڦل ڪري.

★ ★ ★

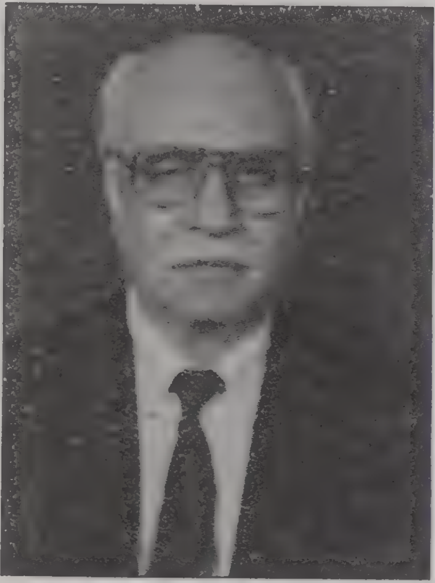
اندر هن چست بهرو ورتو. جنهنڪري جلد ئي هن کي سيڪريٽري ۽ پريزيڊنٽ جو پد حاصل ٿيو.

پوءِ جڏهن ديش اندر لوڪ نائڪ جئہ پرڪاش نارائڻ جو طوفاني آندولن شروع ٿيو ۽ ملڪ اندر امرجنسي جو ڏهاڪ پئدا ٿيو تہ بہ هي شانت ڪري ڪونہ ويٺو.

هن پنهنجو سماجڪ ڪاريہ سانتيڪي نموني جاري رکيو. آخر ديش اندر امرجنسيءَ جو دوَر پورو ٿيو. تڏهن لوڪ نائڪ جئہ پرڪاش نارايڻ ڪانگريس خلاف جنتا جو انقلاب ڪڙو ڪيو. انهيءَ تحرڪ ۾ جنسنگهہ پڻ پاڻ کي جنتا پارٽيءَ ۾ شامل ڪري، ديش جي بهبوديءَ لاءِ اڳتي قدم رکيو.

اهڙي وقت ۾ سيتل کي سندس سياءُ ۽ سماجڪ ڪاريہ سبب ڪاريہ جي مئدان تي آندو. هن کي ايم.ايل.اي. جي ٽڪيٽ ڏني ويئي، جنهن ۾ هي صاحب بلڪل سوڀارو ٿيو ۽ لڳاتار ٽي دفعا، مهاراشٽر اسيمبليءَ ۾ چونڊجي آيو. اهو هڪ قسم جو رڪارڊ هن قائم ڪيو. انهيءَ ١٥ سالن جي عرصي ۾ هن لڳن ۽ سيوا سان سنڌونگر جا ڪيترائي گنڀير مسئلا حل ڪيا. انهن ڪارين جو ذڪر وڏو آهي.

سيتل کي سماجڪ ڪاريه لوڪ پريه نيتا بڻايو آهي



نارائڻ آڏواڻي

ائڊووڪيٽ هاءِ ڪورٽ

گذريل اڌ صدي کان سيتل سماج اندر سرگرم رهي ڪاريه ڪندو رهي ٿو. هن پنهنجي سماجڪ ڪاريه جو آرنڀ نوجيون سرڪل، الهاسنگر ٽئين جي او.ٽيءَ کان شروع ڪيو. ڪن سنگتين ساٿين سان ملي باغ بغيچو ۽ بوڪ لئبرري برپا ڪيائين.

سنڌين جي جيون لاءِ اهو هڪ ڏاڍو ڏکيو دؤر هو. هن نوجوان جي سيوا ڪاريه سڀني جو ڌيان پاڻ ڏانهن ڇڪايو.

هي ننڍپڻ کان ئي آر.ايس.ايس. خيال وارو شخص هو. جنهنڪري هن الهاسنگر اندر جن سنگهه جي شاخا ۾ بهرو ورتو. اهڙي نموني سماجڪ سيوا سان گڏوگڏ سياسي جيون ۾ پڻ يوگدان ڏيڻ لڳو. جن سنگهه جي

ايم.ايل.اي ٿيندا رهيا، ٿيندا رهيا آهن پر كوب
ايم.ايل.اي اها دعوا نہ كري سگهندو تہ هن جو من
كوبہ ٿي سگهي ٿو.

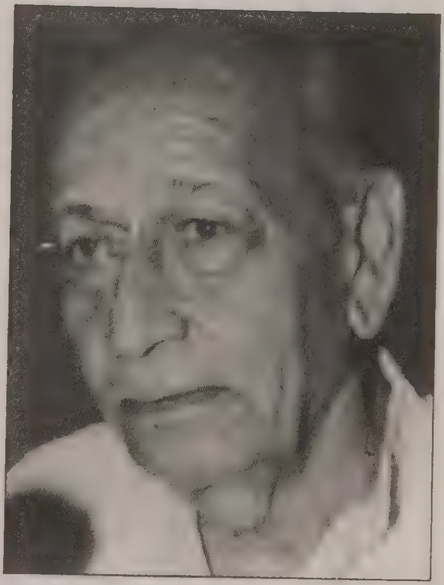
عام جنتا كي پلاٽ، جايون اجهي لاءِ وٺي ڏيڻ لا
سركار كان اسكريننگہ كميٽي ٺهرائي انهنجي
بندوبست لاءِ بہ هن كافي پاڻ پتوڙيو ۽ سڦلتا بہ حاص
كئي مان سمجهان ٿو هنن ٻن اكرن سان هنجي جيو
كي پري نٿو سگهجي سندس كاريہ ڳالهائي ٿو.

* * *

ٻٽيو پر عهديدار به ٻٽيو. ٻئي طرف سماج ۾ گونگن ٻوڙن ٻارن لاءِ ڪوبه ڪاريه نه ڏسي هن گونگن ٻوڙن ٻارن جي اِسڪول جي استاپنا ڪئي جنهن ڪارڻ گونگا ٻوڙا ٻار ايتري قدر تيار ٿي رهيا جو هو ڪنهن جا به زيردست نه ٿي پيرن تي بيهڻ لڳا. الهاسنگر ۾ حالتن جي مدنظر هن نگر اندر ٿيندڙ اسيمبلي چونڊن ويجهو ايندڙ ڏسي جن سنگهه جي اڏڪارين هنکي اسيمبليءَ جي ٽڪيٽ ڏني ۽ هن پهرين ڌڪ سان ڪاميابي حاصل ته ڪئي ليڪن لڳاتار ٽي دفعا اسيمبليءَ ۾ چونڊجي ويو. هيءَ ڪاميابي الهاسنگر جي اتهاس ۾ پهريون دفعو نظر آئي. سماج جي سهوليت کي نظر ۾ رکندي مترن سان گڏجي هن بئنڪ کولڻ جي پڌرائي ڪئي ۽ الهاسنگر ۳ ۾ هن ”نوجيون بئنڪ“ جي استاپنا ته ڪئي ليڪن هر ڪئمپ مان هنکي هر ڪئمپ ۾ بئنڪ جي شاخا کولڻ لاءِ فونن پٺيان فون ايندا رهيا. سماج جي تڪليفن جو احساس ڪندي هن هڪ ٻئي پٺيان هر ڪئمپ ۾ بئنڪ جي شاخا چالو ڪري ڇڏي جنهن ڪارڻ عام جنتا اُن سهوليت جو پوُرن فائدو وٺي رهي آهي.

اڄ ايترو چئي سگهجي ٿو ته الهاسنگر ۾

سيتل هرچنداڻي هڪ سڦل شخص



✍ ٽيڪچند ميرپوري

جنهن انسان جي نالي جي
شروعات ٿي سندس جيون ٽي
روشني وجهي رهي آهي. شيِتل
سياءُ وارو انسان هرهنڌ هر ڪن
۾ آستان پائي سگهي ٿو. سيتل
هرچنداڻي شونق سان نوڪري ب
ڪئي ۽ اڌ ۾ ڇڏي ڪارڻ تہ سندس گهرو حالتون
نوڪري ڪرڻ لائق نہ هُيون. پرماتما پريوار تي اڳي
ٿي مهر ڪري ڇڏي هئي. نوڪريءَ ڇڏڻ ڪانپوءِ هر
مترن سان گڏجي ”نوجيون سرڪل“ جي استاپنا ڪئي
سماج جي گهُرجائن جي گهُرنُ کي پوري ڪرڻ
ڌارمڪ ڪاريہ ڪرم ڪرڻ هن سرڪل جو مکيہ ڪاري
رهيو. آهستي آهستي مترن جي سهڪار سان نوجيون
اِسڪول جي بہ استاپنا ڪئي ۽ ڪاريہ هلندي هلندي
اڄ اُهي هاءِ اِسڪول جو روپ ڌسڻ جو موقعو ضرور آهي
هيءَ هڪ طرف اهي ڪاريہ ڪندي، هن راڄنيتي
ميدان ۾ پير رکيو ۽ پارٽيہ جن سنگهہ جو ميمبر ٿ

جي شخصي جيون جي جهلڪ سون تي سهاڳي جو ڪم ٿي ڪيو. شري سيتل هرچنداڻي شاندار ڪاميابي حاصل ڪئي. عرصو گهڻو نہ ٿيو آهي پر هن جي حاصلات ۽ اُدم تي جيڪڏهن نماڻو فخر ڪجي تہ اسين حق بجانب آهيو يا نہ، سو فيصلو توهان پاڻڪن تي ڇڏيون.

* * *

سيتل جي اڳواڻي لاثاني رهي

✍ ڊاڪٽر ايسر پارواڻي

جڏهن جنتا پارٽيءَ جو نالو وجود ۾ آيو، تڏهن ڀارت جي سياست ۾ هڪ نئون ورق وريو ۽ نئين سڄاڳيءَ جو آغاز ٿيو. وري جڏهن مهاراشٽر جي وڏان سڀا لاءِ اُلهاسنگر تڪ مان جنتا پارٽيءَ جي ٽڪيٽ شري سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ کي ملي، تڏهن نگرواسين طرفان بيحد خوشيءَ جو اظهار ڪيو ويو ڇاڪاڻ تہ انهن پاڻ لاءِ انکي وردان جي روپ ۾ سويڪار ڪيو. ان لاءِ ڪين ڏنا وائنا ۽ ڇتا سبب هئا، هن تعليم يافتہ، نوجوان، سماج شيوڪ، جوڙجڪي ڪاريہ ڪرتا ۽ واپاري طبقي جي لاڏلي گذريل ڪيترن سالن کان اڳيئي پنهنجي خوش طبعي، مرڪندڙ مرحبا، سڄاڳہ فطرت ۽ سياسي سوجهہ ٻوجهہ دئاران نہ فقط هڪ جيڏن پر ڪشور اوسٿا وارن وديارٿين توڙي بزرگہ ۽ مانيہ ڪاريہ ڪرتائن جون دليون جيتيون هيون ۽ سندس يڪسان پيار حاصل ڪيو هو. هنجي اُميدواريءَ واري ڀرئين ڏينهن کان سندس سوپ جي سورهن آنا خاطري هئي. جو جنتا پارٽيءَ جي لوڪ پريتا سان گڏ هن صاحب

چند سٽن ۾ پنهنجي من جي ڀاونائن کي شاعريءَ ۾ بيان ڪريان ٿو :

قرب وارن ۾ قربدارُ
سيتل آ، يارن جو يارُ.

۱- سچي نگر ۾ هنجي ساک،
هر هنڌ آ ''نوجيون'' شاخ
ٻئنڪ ۾ هنجو ناماچارُ،
سيتل آ، يارن جو يارُ.

۲- دُک سک ۾ سيني جو ساٿي،
گونگن، ٻوڙن سان ٻہ دل لاٿي،
ڪرم ڪرڻ لاءِ هردم تيار،
سيتل آ، يارن جو يارُ.

۳- شل هي وڌي اَورجا ماٹي،
شهر ۾ خوشحالي آڈي،
جيون هنجو رهي بهارُ،
سيتل آ، يارن جو يارُ.

* * *

سيتل، يارن جو يارُ

✍ موتيرام هيرانندڻي ”موتي“

١٩٥٢ يعني اڌ صدي اڳ
سيتل ۽ مان او.ٽي. سيڪشن
اُلهاسنگر - ٣ ۾ گڏ هندي پڙهندا
هئاسين. ايترو عرصو هي نہ صرف
منهنجو يارُ ٿي رهيو پر اڳتي
هلي، منهنجو عزيز بہ بڻيو
سندس باري ۾ جيڪڏهن لکڻ ويهندس تہ هن پستڪ
۾ بئي لاءِ لکڻ جي ڪابہ جاءِ ڪانہ رهندي. اُن ڪري
سندس شخصيت جو صرف هڪ ئي نقطو بيان ڪندس
۽ اهو آهي سندس مانيٽو سڀاءُ، نئڙت ۽ نهنائي. جيئن
وڻ ڦل جهلي، تہ نِمي، تيئن ايم.ايل.اي. ٿيڻ ڪان پوءِ
بہ اَڪثر منهنجي گهر، ١٧ سيڪشن ۾ پنڌ ئي هليو
ايندو هو. منهنجي اَمڙ جيڪا سنتياڻي سُڀاءُ جي هوندي
هئي، اُنکي پيري پئي گڏبو هو ۽ هوءَ آسيس ڪري
چوندي هئس تہ ”سيتل ! تون اَجان بہ وڌندي.“ اَج
هي يارن جو يارُ، جنهن اوُج تي رسيو آهي، اُن ۾
منهنجي ماتا جي آسيسن جو بہ ڪجهہ حصو هوندو !
شاعري طبيعت جو ماڻهو آهيان، اُن ڪري سيتل لاءِ

حق وٺي ڏنو آهي، جنهن لاءِ اسان من ۾ سيتل لاءِ وڏيڪ آدر، شڀ اڇائون پئدا ٿيون آهن.

آءٌ پرماتما در اهائي پرارٿنا ڪندي آهيان تہ سيتل کي اڇا سٺي صحت ۽ وڏي اورجا ڏئي تہ هو صاحب سنڌونگر ۽ عام جنتا جي تن، من ۽ ڌن سان سيوا ڪندو رهي.

منهنجي ويچار ۾ سيتل هرچنداڻي عام جي ايتري سيوا ڀلائي ڪئي آهي جو پنهنجو جيون تہ سڦل ڪيو اٿائين پر لوڪن ڏاڍو جس رس پاتو اٿائين. ڪڏهن ڪڏهن ايشور اهڙا انسان موڪليندو آهي. سيتل لاءِ منهنجو سڪ ڀريو پرڻام.

ڌنيواد

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سهڻي صورت ۽ موهڻي مورت - ياءُ سيتل

✍ ما بينا امرت ڌارا

نند 'آنند' ٻڌايو تہ، اسين سيتل هرچنداڻي جي جيون ڪاريہ بابت هڪ ڪتاب پڌرو ڪري رهيا آهيون. اهو ٻڌي بيحد خوشي، آنند ٿيو. منهنجي من اندر اول ئي ياءُ هرچنداڻي لاءِ شرڌا ۽ سڪ سدا رهي آهي. سو مون هڪدم خيال ڪيو تہ 'وندنا ڪي ان سرون مين ايڪ سر ميرا ڀي ملالو.' بس پين ۽ پيپر کنيم، اندر ۾ جيڪا سيتل جي سهڻي صورت ۽ موهڻي مورت اُڪريل هئي، اُن کي فقط لفظن ۾ آڻڻو هو.

شري هرچنداڻي شانت ۽ گنڀير سڀاءُ وارا شاندار شخصيت جا مالڪ آهن. هي هڪ اهڙو شخص آهي، جيڪو سماجڪ، راجنيتڪ، آرٽڪ ۽ سيوا جا ڪاريہ ڪندو رهي ٿو. انهن تمام ڪاريہ ڪندي ڪڏهن بہ سندن چهري تي ٿڪ ۽ مايوسي نظر ڪونہ ايندي آهي، مون کي تہ جڻ ماڊرن رشي لڳندو آهي. اسان جي وديا ڪينٽر ۾ پڻ سيتل سڪول کي ۽ ٽيچرس کي چڱو لاڀ ۽

پيارو شخص بڻجي پوان. مگر مونکي سڌ آهي، جاڻ آهي ته کهڙا ٻه ٻه شخص هڪ جهڙا ڪونه ٿي سگهن ٿا. پر ڪنهن ٻه نيڪ شخص جي آدرش ۾ جيون ڪاريه ڪي پنهنجي جيون سنوارڻ لاءِ ائني مثل ڪتب آڻي سگهجي ٿو ته سيتل ڪي پنهنجو دل جو آئنو ڪري مڃيو آهي. ڇو ته سيتل سدائين ڪاريه ۾ لڳل آهي ۾ عام جي سيوا ئي سندس جيون ۾ نوجيون آهي.

* * *

صاحب جي فيلسوفي آهي ”ڪبيرا کڙا بازار ۾ سي
ڪي مانگي خير. نا ڪسيسي دوستي، نا ڪسيسي بئر.“

مان، خود وڪيل آهيان ۽ روز ڪورٽ جو در اورانگهو
پوندو آهي، ليڪن آءُ ڄاڻان ٿو ته هن جهان جا
بدنصيب ماڻهو ئي ڪورٽ ۾ پهچن ٿا. انهن مان ڪي
سچ پچ ڏوهاري آهن ۽ ڪن کي قدرت، يا ڪي ڏنگا
ماڻهو ڦاسائن ٿا، اهو هڪ نصيب جو ڄڻ ڪيل آهي.

مون سيتل کي سدائين، پنهنجي سيوا ۽ ڪاريه
جي لڳن ۾ رڌل ڏٺو آهي. سندس چوڻي آهي ته ”هت
پنهنجي لاءِ، ڪنهن نيڪ ڪاريه لاءِ وقت ڪونهي ته
پوءِ ڪنهن سان لڙون ؟ ۽ ڇو لڙون ؟“

آءُ، پنهنجي زندگيءَ لاءِ سوچيندو آهيان ته ڪهڙو
پنهنجي اڳيان آدرش رکان، جو پاڻ کي سڦل ۽ لوڪ
پريه بڻايان ! اهو سوچي مان ڪامياب شخص جي
لسٽ ۽ چهرا پنهنجي اڳيان آڻيندو آهيان. انهن تمام
چهرن کي پرکيندي، سوچيندي مون کي هڪ ئي چهرو
ڏاڍي ڪشش ڪندو آهي. جيڪو چهرو سدا سکي، شانت
چت ۽ هردم تازو لڳندو آهي، اهو آهي سيتل
هرچنداڻيءَ جو پيارو چهرو ! سچ پچ آءُ سندس ڪاريه،
سڀاءَ ۽ سندس سيوائن لاءِ من ۾ ايرکا ڪندو آهيان ته
ڪاش آءُ به ڪرتار سان گڏوگڏ سيتل جهڙو آدرش ۽

سدا سيوا ڪاريه ۾ لڳل - سيتل هرچنداڻي

✍ ڪرتار ڊلواڻي

هڪ وڪيل جي حيثيت ۾، آءُ گهڻي قدر شهر جي گهڻن وڏن ماڻهن کي ڪورٽ ڪچهري ڏانهن گهڻو ايندو ويندو ڏسندو آهيان. ڇو ته اهي ڪنهن نه ڪنهن جهنجهٽ، معاملي ۾ مبتلا رهندا آهن ۽ پيا ڪورٽ جا در ڏسندا رهندا آهن. انهن کي ڏسي ڪڏهن ڪل ۽ ڪڏهن رحم پڻ ايندو آهي ۽ پوءِ سوچيندو آهيان، جيڏا اُٺ، تيڏا لوڏا. ليڪن هڪڙو شخص آهي، اسان جي سنڌونگر جو وڏو مدبر شري سيتل هرچنداڻي جنهن کي شهرواسين سانده ٽي دفعا، پنهنجو ايم.ايل.اي. چونڊيو، پر اهو شخص هن وقت انهي پد تي ڪونه آهي. ليڪن سيوائون ۽ عام جا سيوا ڪاريه بخوبي ڪندو رهي ٿو. هن کي گهڻي قدر مون ڪورٽ جي چوڪٽ تي ڪونه ڏٺو آهي. مون انهيءَ لاءِ سوچيو ته جواب مليو، اگر اسين ڪبير صاحب جي فيلسوفيءَ موجب هلون ته شايد هن ڪشمڪش واري جيون ۾ رهندي به جهنجهٽ کان ڇٽل هجون. ڪبير

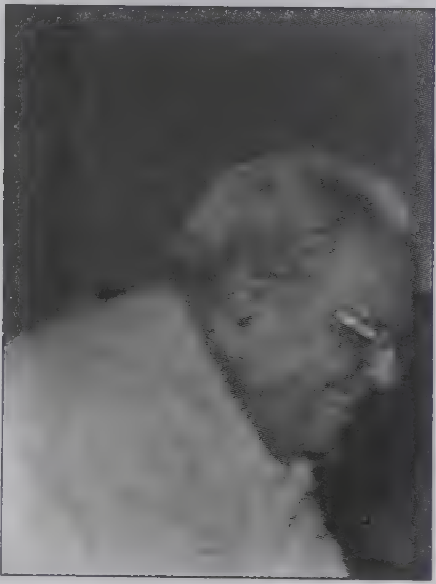
به قائم آهي. مان سندس دوست ۽ سندس وڪيل ٿي هاءِ ڪورٽ ۾ سندس مخالفت خلاف رٽ درخواستون، بي ادبيءَ جا ڪيس، اِليڪشن، پٽيشن، سندس تعليمي سنسٿائون طرفان رٽرن ۽ اُلهاسنگر ڪارپوريشن ۾ کنيون مسئلن جي لاءِ رٽ ۾ لڙيو آهيان ۽ اُن ۾ ڪاميابي حاصل ٿي آهي. مان جيسٿائين جيئرو آهيان هن سان توڙ نڀائيندس. سيتل جي دليري، همٿ، سچائي، وفاداري ۽ ملڪ جاتي ۽ يارن سان وفاداري هميشه سونهري اکرن ۾ ياد رهندي. جيڪو اِسڪول هن ٻوڙن ۽ گونگن لاءِ اُلهاسنگر ۾ کوليو ۽ جنهن جو مهورت مهاراشٽر جي گورنر ايئر چيف مارشل مهرا کان ڪرايو اهو شاندار جلسو مونکي هميشه ياد رهندو ۽ گورنر سندس گهر اچي سندس سان گڏ چانهه پيتي.

نوجوان سهڪاري بئنڪ کي آسمان جي چوٽيءَ تي پهچائڻ لاءِ هن بيحد ڪيرون لهٽيون، سيتل جي سرهاڻي قائم رهندي.

★ ★ ★

شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي سنڌي جاتيءَ جو شان ۽ اُلهاسنگر جو اڏيندڙ هڪ برک شهرواسي

ناري گرسهاڻي



مونکي بيحد خوشي ٿي آهي جو ڀاءُ گهنشام ڀاٽيا جي چيئرمنيءَ هيٺ ڀاءُ سيتل هرچنداڻي ۽ پنهنجا اظيم متر ۽ دلبر دوست ۽ هڪ اوچ ڪوٽيءَ جي لوڪ پريه نيتا ۽ سماج شيوڪ جي شان ۾ هڪ بستڪ سندس زندگي جي جدا جدا پهلن تي، ليکه گهرائي هڪ يادگار ڪتاب ظاهر ڪرڻ جو فيصلو ڪيو آهي. اُنهن کي مبارڪون آهن، جن هيءُ شاندار ڪاريه هٿ ۾ کنيو آهي. انهن داد لهڻو. مان مني ڀاءُ سيتل هرچنداڻي کي سالن کان سڃاڻان. هو فيڊريشن پئنچات جو اُپ پرڌان ٿي رهيو آهي. نرواسين جا جيڪا مسئلا مون پئنچات فيڊريشن طرفان ڀارت سرڪار، مهاراشٽرا سرڪار يا هاءِ ڪورٽ ۾ کنيا آهن هر هنڌ، هر وقت اڌ رات جو سڏ تي مان سان هليو آهي ۽ هن آخرين دم تائين جاتي ۽ ديش ۽ سنڌونگر جي شيوا جو قسم کنيو آهي، اُن تي هوُ اڄ

ڪئي آهي. شهر ۾ شري سيتلداس جهڙا ڪي ٻيا
جانباز نڪري نروار ٿين ته سنڌونگر جي ڪايا پلٽ
ٿي وڃي.

پرم پرماتما مٿس مهر ڪري ڪيس وڏي آورجا ۽
سٺي صحت بخشي، هھڙو زنده دل انسان شل جڳ
جڳ جيئي. پنهنجي قوم ۽ ديش جي خدمت ڪري،
ڪل ۽ سماج جو نالو بلند ڪري.

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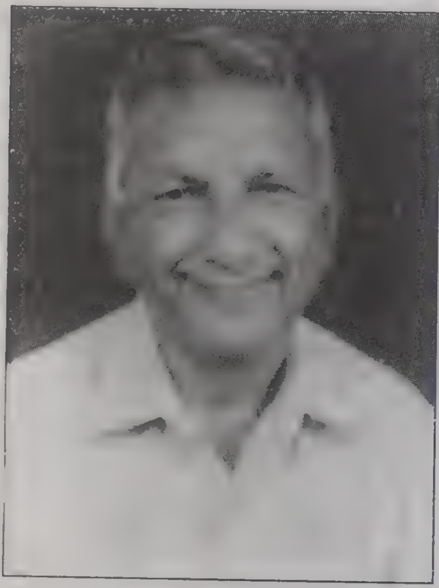
اِنسان دوست : سيتلداس هرچنداڻي



✍ آسودومل موهناڻي
پزيزيڊنٽ پوج ڏرمواڙي پئنچات
او.ٽي.سيڪشن، اُلهاسنگر - ٣.

شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي سچو انسان دوست، نشڪام شيواڌاري، نهنو نماڻو، رلڻو ملڻو، صبر ۽ صداقت جو ڏڻي آهي.

هيءُ صاحب سنڌيت جو سچو شيدائي، اورچ ۽ اعليٰ شخصيت وارو، رسوخ ۽ ايڪتا جو مجسم فيصح زبان، بيباڪ ۽ سنڌي سڄڻن جي دلين جو دلبر آهي.

شري سيتلداس سنڌونگرواسين کي ڇهه سهڪاري بئنڪون، سنڌي ۽ انگريزي ماڌيم وارو هڪ عاليشان اسڪول، لاچار ۽ بيوس ٻارن کي پنهنجن پيرن تي بيهڻ لاءِ ڳونگن ۽ ٻوڙن لاءِ اِسڪول، دماغي طور ضعيف ٻارن لاءِ هڪ شاهي سنسٿا برپا ڪري پنهنجي نيڪ دلي، اورچائي ۽ انسانيت جو لاثاني مثال قائم ڪيو آهي. سندس همٿ، جفا ۽ جاکوڙ جهڙين ڪارين کي ڏسي ائين لڳندو آهي ته مالڪ کيس ڪا غيبي شڪتي عطا

به به سؤ عيب ڪڍي ويهنداسين يا ڪرائيسٽ وانگر
چوڻو پوندو ته هن ابل کي پٿر اُهو هڻي جنهن ڪڏهن
زندگيءَ ۾ ڪا خطا نه ڪئي آهي. پوءِ اجايو اسان کي
شرمسار ٿيڻو پوندو. سيتل مان گڻ سکون ۽ اسين به
اهڙي سيوا ڪاريه جي راهه ۾ قدم کڻون ته واهه واهه
ٿيندي.

سندر ڊنگواڻي
جنرل سيڪريٽري
سنڌو يوٿ سرڪل - سنڌونگر - ٣

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پيو. نوجيون بئنڪ، جسلوڪ سڪول، گونگن ٻوڙن جو سڪول هن لکڻ تائين متان ٻيو ٻہ ڪم هٿ ۾ نہ ڪنيو هجائين ! ها ڪالهہ خبر ملي تہ هڪ ڪاريہ ڪيس وڏيڪ مليو آهي. ڪيس سينٽرل ريلوي وارن پئسينجر ائسوسئيشن جي عيوضي طور صلاحڪار ڪاميٽي تي ڪنيو ويو آهي. آشا آهي هاڻ الهاس ۽ وٺلواڙي اسٽيشن ڪي پڻ چمڪائيندو.

سندس مٿين خوبين مون تي ڪافي اثر ڇڏيو آهي ۽ مان ڪيس عزت جي نظر سان پنهنجو رهبر سمجهندو آهيان ۽ ڪافي ڀيرا ڪيس مکيہ مهمان ۽ معزز مهمان طور گذريل ٢٥ سالن ۾ سرڪل جي ڇيڙٽي شوز ۾ گهرايو آهي. هڪ خوبي اِها بہ اٿس تہ رواجي طور پڻ هن پروگرامن ۾ شرڪت ڪري وڏائي نہ هئڻ جو ثبوت ڏنو آهي. مونکي پنهنجو سمجهي سرڪل جي ڪافي ڏکين ڪارين ۾ گائيڊ ڪيو اٿائين ۽ سرڪل ڪي پلاٽ وٺائي ڏيڻ ۾ ۽ ٻين ڪافي ڳالهين ۾ مونکي مدد ڪئي اٿائين ۽ ڪڏهن اهڙو احساس نہ پيدا ڪيو اٿائين تہ سرڪل هُن جي ناهين ۽ هو اسان سان جڙيل ناهي. مونکي اهڙي شخص لاءِ ۽ شخصيت لاءِ ڪافي شرڌا آهي. باقي جي ويکون ڪڏڻ ويهنداسين تہ پڳوان مان

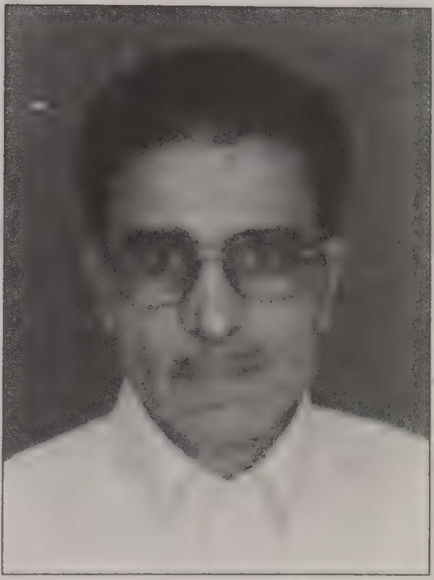
ڪيو. ٻيو به رڪارڊ آهي ته اڄ ڏينهن تائين جيڪڏهن ڪو ليڊر جنتا جي ويجهو رهيو آهي ته اُهو آهي سيتل. سيتل وٽ في معاف لاءِ، صحي لاءِ، سڪولي ڪتابن لاءِ، ميونسپل جو ڪم هجي يا مهاراشٽر گورنمينٽ جو ڪم، پلاٽ جو مسئلو هجي يا جڳهه جو، ڪاليج ۾ داخلا جي پريشاني هجي يا قرض جي ضرورت هجي، سماجڪ هر مسئلي لاءِ سيتل گهر ۾ آفيس ۽ لڪشمي مارڪيٽ ۾ آفيس ۾ باقائدي ويهندو هو ۽ هميشه وقت جي پابندي سان پاڻ کي جنتا لاءِ حاظر رکندو آهي. سيتلداس سان ملڻ ۾ غريب کي به پابندي نه هوندي هئي ۽ نه وري ڪيس ملڻ ۾ ڪا وڏائي. مان نٿو ڀانيان ته ڪوبه ليڊر ايترو سهوليت سان ماڻهن سان ملڻ ۾ سؤلو رهيو هوندو. وري سندس هيڏين مسئلن هوندي به سڀاءُ ۾ هميشه سيتل رهيو هو. نالي سان پورو نباهيو اَٿاهين.

هاڻ سياسي طاقت نه رهي ۽ ڪافي ساٿي به پراڻا هليا ويا. ڪي متڀيد ۽ ٻيو عمر به ڪافي چڙهي ويئي آهي. تندرستي پڻ ايترو ساٿ نٿي ڏيس. پر تڏهن به سندس اُنساهه گهٽيو ناهي ۽ چالو ڪيل ڪارين کي زور شور سان هلائي پيو ۽ هن خزان جي دؤر ۾ پاڻ پتوڙي

نوجيون سرڪل سندس پهريون جنون هئي ۽ سماج ڪاريه جي شروعات. هن اُن سنسٿا کي ناهڻ ۾ خون پسينو هڪ ڪيو. اڪيلو هجي يا ساٿين سان سرڪل کي وڌائڻ ۾ دڪانن تان اشتهار وٺڻ، چئرٽي شو جون ٽڪيٽون هلائڻ ۽ ڊونيشن گهرڻ ۾ پنهنجي هر هٻڪ ۽ شرم کي تلانجلي ڏيئي ڏينهن رات سنسٿا کي ناهڻ ۾ پورو زور لڳايو. اُن جو نتيجو اڄ جو جسلوڪ اِسڪول. اُن کانپوءِ ته گونگن ٻوڙن جي سڪول جو ڪاريه، نوجيون ٻئنڪ جي شروع ۽ ونلواڙي، اُلهاس پئسينجر ائسوسئيشن جي ڪم ۾ پڻ جنبي ويو ۽ ڪافي ساٿي ڪنا ڪري ڪاريه چالو رکيا اٿائين. نه صرف مٿيان ڪاريه زور آهن پر اڄ شهر ۾ آدرش ڪاريه ڪرتا پڻ سيتل ثابت ٿيو آهي.

ڪاريه جو جنون ڪاريه ڪرتا کي نيل ڪنٺ وانگر هر برائي، هر ٽيڪاٽپٽيءَ، هر گلا کي هضم ڪرڻ جي شڪتي ڏيندو آهي. ۽ سيتل ڪڏهن به قدم پٺتي هٽايو ناهين ۽ پاڻ وڌيڪ لگن سان اڳيان وڌيو آهي. سندس مٿيان ڪاريه ڪيس راڄنيتي ۾ ٽپڻ جو خاص موقعو ميسر ڪري ڏنو ۽ لڳاتار ٽي پيرا ايم.ايل.اي. چونڊجي هڪ اُن دور جي وڏي ۾ وڏو اڻ وسرندڙ رڪارڊ قائم

سيتلداس هرچندائي
هڪ جنوني شخصيت



✍ سندر ڊنگوائي

اڪثر لکڻ جي عادت ڪانه اَٿم. پنهنجي ''سنڌو'' مئگزن هئڻ ڪانپوءِ به. پر جڏهين اوچتو ڪنهن سڄڻ چيو ته سيتل جي سنگ ۾ ڪافي پيرا تون به ته آيو آهين. ڪافي پروگرامن ۾ ڪيس مکيه شرف ڏنو اَٿس، ته ڇا تون ڪيس ڪجهه به سڃاتو ناهي ؟ ڳالهه وزن واري هئي ۽ چيم چڱو يار قلم هلائيندس ۽ وينس هيءُ ليکه لکڻ.

سيتل هرچندائيءَ کي مان ۳۵ سالن کان سڃاڻان. ملاقات تمام گهٽ ضرور ٿيندي آهي پر جڏهن به مليا آهيون ته پنهنجائپ جو اثر نظر ايندو آهي. اِئين لڳندو آهي ته اسان گڏجي ڪم ڪندا آهيون. چوڻ جو مطلب اِهو ته سيتلداس ايترو ته پنهنجائپ سان ملندو آهي جو اڳلي کي ائين محسوس نه ٿيندو آهي ته مان هڪ رواجي ڪم ڪندڙ ۽ سيتلداس ڪارين جو سرتاج سامهون آهي.

منهنجي لاءِ اَجا بہ پرارٿنا ڪريو تہ جيسين سرير ۾ سگهہ هجي تہ شيوا جا ڪاريہ ڪندو رهان. اهڙي اعليٰ شخصيت لاءِ وڌيڪ لکڻ سج کي ڏيئو ڏيکارڻ سمان ٿيندو. سندس نالو سيوا ڪاريہ سبب گنيز بوڪ ۾ اچڻ گهرجي.

''اوم سندرم''

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ڪونه وساريو آهي پر سنڌيت سان پڻ لڳاءُ اَٿس، جو
بئنڪ جو اُدگهاٽن ڪرڻ وقت به اُن ننڍڙي دربار ۾
پاڻ ڪهي ڪوٺ ڏيڻ آيا ته ڇهين برانچ کولڻ وقت به
اَچي اُدگهاٽن ۽ ربين ڪٽائڻ جو رسم ادا ڪرڻ لاءِ پڻ
پاڻ پنهنجن ساٿين سان گڏ اَچي قربائتي ڪوٺ ڏني.
اِها ننڍڙي دربار آهي ”دادا رامچند شانتي دربار“
سدا سندن مٿان مهر ميا جي درشٽي رهندي.

ڪيڏو نه اونو آهي ڪين ٻارن لاءِ جو اسڪول کولي ته
جس ڪٿيو اَٿائون پر گونگن ٻوڙن لاءِ اسڪول هڪ تمام سندر
ڪاريه آهي، جنهن ۾ سنڌيت جو ڳاٽ اونچو آهي. وشو ۾
سنڌين جون بئنڪون ايڪڙ ٻيڪڙ آهن. پر شري سيتلداس
هرچنداڻي سنڌونگر ۾ ڇهه برانچون کولي سنڌين جو
شان وڌايو آهي ۽ سندن آجيان ٻين سنڌين ايراضين ۾
به ٻيون برانچون کولي شيڊول بئنڪ جو سرٽيفڪيٽ
حاصل ڪندا ته هميشهه نالو قائم دائم رهندو.

سيوا ڪاريه ڪنهنجو به وچٽو ڪونهي. شري
سيتلداس جو چوڻ آهي ته مون ڪو ڪنهن جي مٿان
مهرباني ڪونه ڪئي آهي پر اِنسانيت ناتي فرض
اَدائي ڪئي آهي ۽ ساٿين جو سهيوڳ هر وقت ملندو
رهيو آهي.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻي هڪ اعليٰ شخصيت

✍ دادا پارتي راجا

سنڌين جي سرمور شري سيتلداس ڪي نہ صرف سنڌونگر واسي سڃاڻن پر ڀارت جا سڀ سنڌي سڃاڻن. سدا من ۾ ڪا نہ ڪا هلچل هلندي اَتس تہ ڪجھ نہ ڪجھ ڪاريہ ڪريان. نوڙت، نيزاري، من محبت جي مورت آهي. جنهن ٽي دفعا لڳاتار ايم.ايل.اي. جي ڪرسي حاصل ڪري ڪيترن جا ڪاريہ ڪيا آهن.

هر دفعي اِها اعليٰ شخصيت هڪ ننڍڙي دربار جنهن ۾ سڀني ديوي ديوتائن جو نواس آهي جتي رحمت ۽ مهر ميا پيئي وسي هرڪو آشيرواد سان جهول ڀيو ڀري اُتان شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي نہ صرف ايم.ايل.اي. وقت ميٽنگ رکي آشيرواد پراپت ڪئي آهي. پر ڪنهن بہ الڪيشن وقت يا ٻئي ڪنهن ڪاريہ وقت پنڄ منٽ ئي سهين اَچي ديا جي درشٽي پراپت ڪئي آهي. ڪيترا سنڌي وڏن عهدن تي آهن پر سيتلداس جيتوڻيڪ ڪڏهن بہ ٻين ذاتين وارن ڪي بہ

عاليءَ ڪاريءَ، قرب، عزت ۽ اختارام وچان، عمر جي بزرگي ڪارڻ پڻ جنتا کيس ”سيتل“ بدران شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي سڏيندي آهي. پر سائين بابا کيس وڏي عمر سان گڏ سٺي صحت بخشي جو شهر جي وڏيڪ ۽ وڏيڪ شيوا ڪندو رهي. آمين.

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هو ائين نہ ڪري سگهيو ۽ جيڪي سرڪار وٽان ملڻ گهربو هو، اهو سمورو شهر کي نہ ملي سگهيو.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻي واپاري ورتيءَ وارو هوندي شهر جي واپار جي مالي حالت جو جائزو ورتو ۽ ان ڏس ۾ ”نوجيون بئنڪ“ جو نرماڻ ٿيو. بئنڪ کي ايمانداري، لگن ۽ اتساهہ سان هلائيندي بئنڪ کي ضرورت آهر ٻيون پنج شاخون ڏنيون ۽ شهر جي واپار کي واڌ ملي. اڄ بئنڪن جي حالتن کي ڏسبو تہ گهٽو ڪري ڪو آپريٽو بئنڪن ۾ ڪروڙن روپين جي هيرا ڦيري ٿيندي آهي. سرڪار ٦٣٠ ڪو آپريٽو بئنڪن جي جاچ جو حڪم ڏنو آهي. پر نوجيون پنهنجو ڪاريہ ڪندي رهي ٿي.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ کي نوان نوان دوست ڪرڻ جو شونق آهي. نون دوستن سان ناتو جوڙيندي، پراڻا دوست يا تہ پٺتي رهجي ٿا وڃن يا پاڻ مرادو پاڻ ڇڏائيندا ٿا وڃن. اگر شري سيتل هرچنداڻي پنهنجن نون ساٿي ڊئريڪٽرن سان گڏ بئنڪگ جو سرشتو پوري ڊنگ ۽ ايمانداري سان هلايائين ۽ رزرو بئنڪ جي نيمن جو شختي سان پالن ڪيائين تہ مونکي وشواس آهي تہ اڳيان هلي نوجيون بئنڪ کي پنجن شاخن بدران ٻيون ٢٥ شاخون کولڻ لاءِ مجبور ٿيڻو پوندو.

جو پڻ ڪم ڪندڙ رهيو. سنو ڪم ڪندڙ هئڻ ڪري، پارٽيءَ پاران اسيمبلي ميمبر طور لڙڻ لاءِ کيس حڪم مليو.

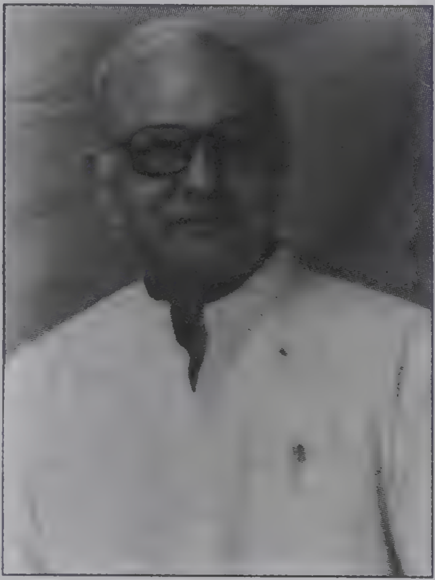
جئن آنءُ راڄنيتي مان ڪنارو ڪري چڪو هوس، انڪري نہ چاهيندو هوس تہ جوڙجڪي ڪم ڪندڙ چونڊون لڙي يا راڄنيتي ۾ سرگرم بهرو وٺان وغيره. هڪ بزرگہ جوڙجڪي ڪم ڪندڙ دليل اڳيان رکيو. اسانجو ڀاءُ يا مول متو يا خواهش شهر کي ٺاهڻ ۽ سڌارڻ ۽ دائمي سهنج موجود ڪري ڏيڻ ۾ رهيو آهي تہ اسين ان دشا ڏانهن رخ ڪنداسون ۽ ڪم ڪنداسون؛ ليڪن ڪي ٻيا شخص جنهن جو متو صرف پئسو ٺاهڻ جو هوندو تہ هو سياويڪ، ان ڏس ۾ ڪم ڪندو ۽ خود پائيندو، انڪري جوڙجڪي ڪم ڪندڙن کي ئي سياست ۾ اڳيان وڌڻ گهرجي.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ اهو ساڳيو اُديش، مقصد اڳيان رکي اسيمبلي لاءِ لڙيو ۽ ٿي ئي ڀيرا لڳاتار ڪامياب ويو. زماني جي چال ۽ نزاڪت کي ڏسي جيڪڏهن حق ۽ اڌڪار، سکہ ۽ سهنج گهرڻ يا طلبڻ سان نٿا ملن تہ ان لاءِ سنگهرش ڪرڻ گهرجي، لڙڻ گهرجي؛ ليڪن هنجو سانتيڪو ۽ نهنو سياءُ هئڻ ڪري

شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي
سيپاءَ جو سرل ۽ سيتل

✍ نيوند ڊي. واڌواڻي

آنرري سيڪريٽري، سيوانڪيتن



اڌ صدي اڳہ مان ڪانگريس جو ڪاريہ شيل ميمبر هوس. راجنيتي جي رمزن ۽ چالن کي پاڻ سان نهڪائي نہ سگهيس ۽ سدا لاءِ تلانجلي ڏيئي جوڙجڪي ڪاريہ ۾ قدم رکيو. انهن ڏينهن ۾ سيوا سمتي، سوشل سروس سرڪل ۽ نوجيون سرڪل جوڙجڪي ڪاريہ ۾ سرگدان هيون. هرهڪ سنستا جو الڳہ الڳہ ڪاريہ هوندي پاڻ ۾ ساٿ ۽ سهڪار هوندو هو.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻي نوجيون سرڪل جو سرگرم ڪم ڪندڙ هو. سرڪل لاءِ نشٺا، امنگ ۽ لگن سان ڪم ڪندي شهر کي دائمي سهنج ڏنا جئن تہ اسڪول، هاءِ اسڪول ۽ گونگن ٻوڙن جو اسڪول وغيره. هن ڪاريہ کي سر انجامي ڏيندي راجنيتي پارٽي ڀارتيہ جنتا پارٽي

آپريٽو بئنڪ برپا ڪري ان جون ڇهه شاخون کولي يگانو ڪم ڪيو اٿس ۽ سنڌي جنتا جي روزگار ۽ مالي مشڪلات ۾ مددگار ٿيو آهي. ونلواڙي ۽ شهد پئسينجر ائسوسئيشن برپا ڪرڻ ۽ سينٽرل اسپتال کي نئين ماڊرن ڊنگه ڏيڻ ۾ هن جو وڏو يوگدان آهي. هن ٻيا گهڻا ئي ڪم ڪيا آهن.

★ ★ ★

شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي

✍ ڊاڪٽر ارجن سڪايل

جيڪو شخص سنڌونگر مان لڳاتار ٣ دفعا مهاراشٽرا وڌان سڀا تي چونڊجي چڪي ان جي لوڪپريتا ۽ ڪاريه ڪشلتا لاءِ ٻيو ڪهڙو ثبوت ٿي سگهي ٿو. هن اسيمبليءَ ۾ سوين سوال پڇيا ۽ ضرورت مندن کي هزارين صحيون ڪري ڏنيون ۽ ان لاءِ سالن جا سال روزانو ٻه ٻه ڪلاڪ آفيس ۾ اچي وهڻ وارو ٻيو ايم.ايل.اي. سڄي هندستان ۾ شايد ئي ڪوئي ملي. شري سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ جو جنم دادو ضلع سنڌ جي ماڏو ڳوٺ ۾ خوبچند زميندار ۽ واپاري ۽ سامل اونر جي گهر ۾ ٢٢ ڊسمبر ١٩٣٣ تي ٿيو. بي.اي. پاس ڪرڻ بعد، هن هتي ڀواني سا مِل برپا ڪئي ۽ ساڳئي وقت شيوا ڪيتر ۾ ٽپي پيو. نوجيون سرڪل جو پايو وڌائين، باغ، لئبرري ۽ هاءِ اِسڪول برپا ڪيائين، جنهن جو نالو جسلوڪ هاءِ اِسڪول رکيل آهي. نوجيون ڪو

جا ڪيترا پراجيڪٽ عمل ۾ آڻي ڊسٽرڪٽ روٽري گورنر جي دل جيتي. جتي بہ سيتلداس هوندو آهي اُتي نوجيون جو نالو نڪرندو آهي. نوجيون بليٽن بہ هن شايع ڪئي. ستيہ ميوَ جيتي تيئن سيتلداس نوجيون ۾ سمايل آهي. چيمبور ڪالوني ممبئي شري حشو آڏواڻي تيئن سنڌونگر جي سنڌين ۾ شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي ڏاڍو لوڪپريہ آهي. ڪڏهن بہ هن صاحب ڪنهن سان ڪاوڙ غصي ۾ نہ ڳالهايو آهي. جهڙو نالو سيتلداس اٿس تهڙو سڀاءُ سيتل اٿس. هن صاحب کي ڪار انعام ۽ ڪيترا سنمان سنڪار ٿيا آهن. پر اِهي تمام ٿورا آهن جيڪڏهن هن کي نج سون ۾ بہ ڪٽي تورجي اِهو بہ ٿوري ۾ ٿورو آهي. اڄ سنڌيت جي محبوب نيتا شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻيءَ جو ٧٠ جنم دن آهي. کيس نوجيون بئنڪ، نوجيون سرڪل ٽرسٽ، جس لوڪ هاءِ اسڪول، پهلاج دولترام چئنچلاڻي، پرهلاد آڏواڻي، سائين ٽيڪچند ميرپوري ٻين پارٽين پاران کيس جنم دن جون هارڊڪ ۽ بيشمار واڌايون.

”شل ! جڳہ جڳہ جيئندو رهين، شيوا جي ڇاپ ڇڏيندو رهين.“

* * *

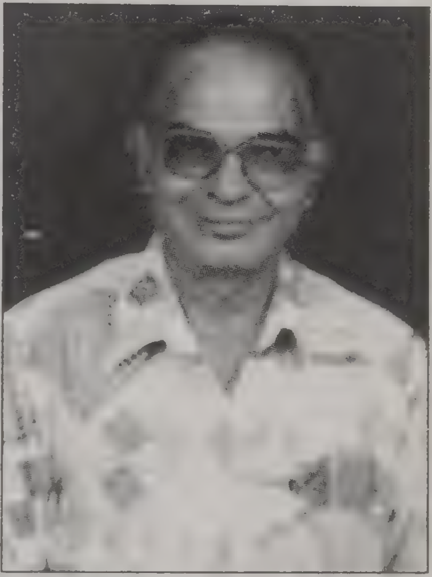
مائيءَ جي لعل اينٽريون صحيون نہ پاتيون آهن. ڏنيہ آهن هن صاحب جا ماتا پتا صاحب جن اهڙو سوروير سيتل لعل پئدا ڪيو آهي. هن صاحب ساندهہ ٽي دفعا مهاراشٽر راجيہ وڏان سڀا جي ميمبر ٻڻجڻ جو شرف ماڻيو آهي. هيءُ صاحب هن وقت وڏان سڀا ميمبر تہ نہ آهي پر هن صاحب جي شخصيت نہ فقط مهاراشٽر جي منسٽر ليول تي پر ڪيندريہ سرڪار جي گرهہ منتري شري لعل ڪرشڻ آڏواڻيءَ کي بہ ڪشش ڪري ٿي. هيءُ صاحب منتراليہ ۾ شري ماني صاحب سيڪريٽريءَ سان ملڻ ويو تہ شري ماني صاحب پنهنجي چيمبر مان ٻاهر نڪري آيو ۽ ڪيس پنهنجي آفيس ۾ وٺي آيو. سيڪريٽري شري جي.ايس. گل صاحب جو شري سريچند صابلاڻي جي معرفت ڪيس سڪ جو سڏ مليو تہ هيءُ صاحب گل صاحب سان مڪاميل ڪري آيو. موجودهہ مهاراشٽر سرڪار جو چيف ائڊيشنل سيڪريٽري گرهہ وڀاڳہ شري وي. رنگناٿن مهاراشٽر منتري جڳنناٿ پاٽل گونگن ٻوڙن جو رنگارنگي ڪلچرل پروگرام ڏنو ۽ شري سريچند صابلاڻي کي ٻڌايو تہ هن کي آنند آيو ۽ اهڙي سندر ڪاريہ لاءِ هن شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي کي داد ڏنو. هيءُ صاحب روٽري ڪلب آف الهاسنگر جو بہ پريزيڊنٽ ٿيو ۽ سماج شيوا

۾ وڃڻ جو وقت ڪڍندو آهي. هن صاحب جي روبرو وڃڻ سبب ٺئي بئنڪون بلنديءَ تي پهتيون آهن. ڪن اخبارن جا سمپادڪ هن صاحب ۽ سندس ساٿين خلاف ڪالم ڪارا ڪندا آهن. پر چوندا آهن تہ جنهن جو رب تنهن جو سڀ ڪجهہ. رب راضي تہ دنيا راضي پر ٻيلي ! يار نہ رسي. جڳہ جو رب شري سيتلداس سان هميشهہ ساڻ آهي. هن صاحب مهاراشٽر راجيہ سنڌي ساهتيہ اڪادميءَ کي جنم ڏنو. نوجيون ڪو آپريٽو بئنڪ، سنڌونگر - ۳ هيڊ ڪوارٽر هيڊ آفيس جي سامهون سيمينٽ بلاڪ روڊ ٺهرايو. اُلهاسنگر ريلوي اسٽيشن جي ڦاٽڪ مٿان شاهي پل ٺهرائڻ جون هن صاحب جون ڪوششون آهن. سينٽرل ريلوي بورڊ طرفان اها شاهي پل تيار ٿيندي تہ، نہ فقط حادثن کي ٻنجو ايندو پر هر روز هزارين سفر ڪندڙ مسافرن جو قيمتي وقت بہ بچندو. هن صاحب سنڌونگر - ۳ ۾ سينٽرل هاسپيٽل ٺهرائي، ۴۸ لڪشمي مارڪيٽ، فرسٽ فلور، سنڌونگر-۳ جي آفيس ۾ هن صاحب شهرواسين جي ڪمن ڪارجن جي پي.ايس.اي.ايم جون شاگردن جي في معاف فارمن، ٽريو ڪاپين ۽ ضروري ڪاغذن تي صحيون ۽ ٺپا هنيا آهن جو اڄ ڏينهن تائين ڪنهن بہ

رام ميگهي ۾ آفيسر جي اڳيان بک هڙتال ڪئي تہ پگھارون ترت ڏنيون ويون. شهد ريلوي برج پل ٺهرائي هيءُ صاحب هرروز هزارين راهگيرن جون دعائون ڪٽي رهيو آهي. سنڌونگر شهر ۾ هن صاحب سرڪاري کير اِسڪيم جي شپ شروعات ڪئي. سيوا سدن ڪاليج آف ايڊيوڪيشن کي مهاراشٽر منتري ليول تي ڊي.ايڊ. ڪلاسن هلائڻ جي منظوري وٺي ڏني. وڏايڪ جي نالي مهاراشٽر وڏان سڀا ۾ سوال ڪٽي ساڌو ٻيلا اسڪول پلاٽ تان بجليءَ جو ٿنبو هٽايو. نوجيون سرڪل ٽرسٽ کي هن صاحب جنم ڏنو ۽ هيءُ صاحب جس لوڪ سنڌي ۽ انگريزي ماڊيمن هاءِ اِسڪول جو جنم داتا بڻيو. جتي هرروز هزارين ٻالڪ ٻالڪائون وديا جو لاڀ وٺي رهيا آهن. دادا ناڪرداس گهياٽي سان ملي ڪري هن صاحب جس لوڪ هاءِ اسڪول جو جس وڌايو. پنهنجن دوستن سروَ شري ٻچو روپچنداڻي، لعل پنجابي، ڀاڳو تلريجا، اڌو ميراڻي، هيرالعل سنپداساڻي گروءَ جي پنجن پيارن سان ملي ڪري نوجيون ڪو آپريٽو بئنڪ لميٽيڊ جو پايو وڌو جنهن جون ڇهہ برانچون سنڌونگر شهر ۾ نالو ڪڍي رهيون آهن. ان جا ڪي بہ ٻہ رايا نہ آهن ”ڏڻ تہ ڏٽي نہ تہ وڪڻ ڪٽي“ هيءُ صاحب نوجيون بئنڪن

مسڪينن جو مسيحا سيتلداس هرچنداڻي

سريچند صابلاڻي



ڪجهہ سال اڳہ ممبئي جي جلسي ۾ شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي ڏاڍي دکہ درد وچان ظاهر ڪيو تہ ممبئي جي سنڌين کي سنڌونگرواسين جو ڪوبہ خيال نہ آهي. اهڙا بہ سنڌي آهن جيڪي جڳهين جا مالڪ بڻجي نہ سگهيا آهن. بئريسٽر دادا هوتچند گوپالداس آڏواڻي ڪيس هڪ لکہ رپين جي پهرين قسط ڏني ۽ اهڙي ريت اڪيچار غريب گهرن جا مالڪ بڻيا. ”پڳوان ڏيندو آ ڪنهن جي هٿان“ شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي مهاراشٽر جي محصول منتري شري اُتم راو پاٽل کي بکہ هڙتال جو نوٽيس ڏنو تہ ٽيليفون اختياري وارن کي ٽيليفون بلڊنگہ لاءِ پلاٽ ڏنو وڃي ۽ اهڙي ريت نئين ٽيليفون جي شاندار بلڊنگ تيار ٿي. جئہ هند ۽ نيو ايريا پرائمري اسڪولن جون پڳهارون هڪ سال کان ماسٽر - ماسترياڻين کي نہ مليون تہ هن صاحب مهاراشٽر راجيہ جي تعليم وزير پرويسر

هرچنداڻي ڪڏهن بہ پاشڻ جي خيال کان مشهور نہ آهي. تنهن جي معنيٰ تہ هيءُ صاحب جيڪي ڪجهہ مشهور آهي سو پنهنجي ڪاريہ جي ڪري ئي مشهور آهي. مان سندس ملاقات ۾ ڪافي ڪجهہ متاثر ٿيس ۽ مان ڪيس داد ڏيڻ ڪانسواءِ رهي نہ ٿو سگهان. اُميد رکان ٿو تہ شري سيتل هرچنداڻي وڏي اورجا ماڻي اڄا بہ اُلهاسنگر ۾ سنڌين جي شيوا ڪندا رهن.

سريچند گرناڻي

ايڊوڪيٽ، هاءِ ڪورٽ

* * *

پر اسان سنڌين کي سيني لاءِ من ۾ سد ڀاونا رکڻ گهرجي.

سوال-١٨ : اُلهاسنگرواسين لاءِ اوهان کي کهڙو سنديش ڏيڻو آهي ؟

سيتل : اُلهاسنگر جا ماڻهو سمجهو آهن. انهن کي پنهنجا متڀيد وساري ڪري يڪمشت ٿي ڪري سندس جي واڌاري ۽ سڌاري لاءِ ڪم ڪرڻ کپي ۽ سماج مان اوڻايون ڪڍڻ ۾ ڪامياب وڃڻ کپي. سنگهٺن ئي سنڌين جو بچاءُ ۽ آئينده آهي.

ڌنيواد

پنهنجو رايو

مٿي ڏنل ملاقات کان پوءِ مونکي ڪافي روشني ملي ته اسان جو اڳوڻي ايم.ايل.اي. شري سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ جو ڪيترو نه اُلهاسنگر لاءِ ڪاريه ڪيل آهي.

ساڻس ملاقات مان اهو ڏٺو ته شري سيتل هرچنداڻي هڪ شانت ڪاريه ڪرتا آهي. سندس سان ملاقات ۾ مونکي اِئين ڪٿي به نه لڳو ته هو صاحب ڪٿي به بٽاڪ هٽي ٿو يا هام هٽي ٿو. سوالن جا جواب پڻ ٿورن اکڙن ۾ ڏنائين. هيءُ صاحب ٻالپائڻ کان وڌيڪ ڪاريه ۾ وشواس رکي ٿو. تنڏهن ته شري سيتل

ڏسون تہ موجوده ايم.ايل.اي. شري پپو ڪالاڻي هاڻي کهڙو ٿو سجهاءُ ڏي يا ڪو قدم کڻي.

سوال-١٦ : اوهان جي خيال ۾ هن شهر جو آئينده ڪيئن لڳي رهيو آهي ؟

سيتل : جيئن هن وقت لڳي ٿو تہ تہ اُلهاسنگر جو آئينده اونداهو آهي. باقي هڪ ڳالهہ آهي تہ نگر جا گهڻ گهرا راڄنيتي متڀيد وساري جيڪڏهن شهر کي ٺاهڻ جي ڪوشش ڪندا تہ نگر جو ڀلو ٿي سگهي ٿو.

سوال-١٧ : اخبارن جي پرچار ۽ لوڪل ماڻهن جي نظر ۾ اُلهاسنگر هڪ بدنام بستي بڻجي پيو آهي. ان لاءِ اوهان کي ڇا ٻڌائڻو آهي ؟

سيتل : لوڪل ماڻهن جي دلين ۾ ساڙ ۽ حسد آهي. اسين سنڌي ترقي پسند آهيون. ٿوري وقت ۾ اسين پاڻ کي سٺو سنڀاليو آهي. گهڻي ڀاڱي سنڌي ڌنڌوري قوم آهيون ۽ ٿوري نفعي تي اسين ڌنڌو ڪندا آهيون. پر هتي اچي ڪري اسين پاڻ کي سنڀالي ورتو آهي، اسان جي جڳهہ تي ٻيءَ ڪا قوم هجي ها تہ ڪڏهن جو ناس ٿي وڃي ها.

ڳالهايو ويو آهي پر ڪوبه ڪڙوَتيل ڪونه
نڪتو آهي.

سوال-۱۴: اِها عالم آشڪار ڳالهه آهي ته اُلهاسنگر جي
پوليس جي روش ڏاڍي ڏڪائيندڙ آهي. ان
واسطي پنهنجي وقت ۾ ڪهڙا قدم کنيا ۽
هينئر جيڪر اوهين ڇا ڪرڻ چاهيو ؟

سيتل : پوليس جي روش، مان جڏهن ايم.ايل.اي.
هوس، ايتري خراب ڪونه هئي جيڪا
هينئر خراب ڏسي رهيو آهيان، پوليس جي
روش هينئر وڌيڪ خراب آهي، جنهن لاءِ
اثرائتو ڪو قدم کڻڻ تمام ضروري آهي.
جنتا، نيتا ۽ پوليس اڌڪارين کي ملي قدم
کڻڻ گهرجي.

سوال-۱۵ : ڇا اُلهاسنگر ڪڏهن سنڌونگر بڻجندو ؟

سيتل : اُلهاسنگر سنڌونگر بڻجي سگهي ها، اگر هن
کان اڳ اسين وڌيڪ سجاڳ رهون ها.
هينئر ته وڌيڪ ۽ وڌيڪ سنڌين کانسواءِ
ٻيون ذاتيون اُلهاسنگر ۾ اچي ويون آهن.
اُهي ڪڏهن به نه چاهينديون ته اُلهاسنگر
جو نالو بدلائي سنڌونگر رکيو وڃي. وري به

آهي تہ اُلهاسنگر جي آدمشماري وڌي ويئي آهي. واٽر سپلاءِ وارن پاڻيءَ جي سپلاءِ کونہ وڌائي آهي، پاڻيءَ جي سپلاءِ گهٽيل آهي چاڪاڻ تہ واٽر سپلاءِ وارن جا ڪافي پئسا اُلهاسنگر ميونسپل تي چڙهيل آهن، جنهنڪري معاملو ڪجهہ منجهيل آهي.

سوال-١٢ : اُلهاسنگر جي بهبوديءَ لاءِ اوهان پاڻيءَ جي مسئلي کي حل ڪرڻ لاءِ ڪهڙي رٿا ڏيئي سگهو ٿا ؟

سيتل : پاڻيءَ رهيل بل Arrears معاف ڪيا وڃن سينٽرل گورمينٽ جي ١٨ ڪروڙن جي اسڪيم اچڻي آهي. هن موجب پاڻيءَ جو مسئلو حل ٿي سگهي ٿو. اهڙي اميد آهي پر ڪوشش ڪئي وڃي.

سوال-١٣ : اُلهاسنگر جي آٽو رڪشا شهرواسين لاءِ آزار آهي، ان مسئلي کي ڪهڙي نموني حل ڪري سگهجي ٿو ؟

سيتل : اهو مسئلو حل ٿي سگهي ٿو پبلڪ ۽ پوليس جي سهڪار سان. ان کانسواءِ اِهو مسئلو حل ٿي نہ سگهندو. گهڻيئي دفعا پوليس سان

اوهان کي ائين لڳي ٿو ته پپوءَ جي ڪرامت هئي يا ماڻهن جو رخ بدليل هو ؟

سيتل : پپوءَ جو اثر ماڻهن تي آهي. اُلهاسنگر جي جنتا اُن کي موقعو ڏنو آهي. جيئن شهر جو وڪاس ٿئي، پر ڏسجي ته هو ان آئينده جي ڪاريه ۾ ڪيترو ڌيان ڏئي سگهي ٿو ۽ سڦل ٿي سگهي ٿو. اهو وقت ٻڌائيندو.

سوال-١٠ : هن وقت اوهين نوجيون بئنڪ جي ڪاريه ۾ سڦل آهيو، تڏهن به اوهان جي دل ۾ تمنا آهي ته وري هڪ دفعو MLA ٿي ڪري رهيل ڪاريه پورا ڪريان ؟

سيتل : مونکي ڪاريه ڪرڻ جي گهڻي تمنا آهي پر هاڻي MLA ٿيڻ لاءِ به ڪابه خواهش نه آهي. مان MLA نه هوندي به ٻاهر رهي ڪاريه سيوا ڪري به ڪم ڪري رهيو آهيان. مان نوجيون بئنڪ ۾ رهي ڪري ڪافي ڪاميابي حاصل ڪئي آهي.

سوال-١١ : هن موجوده وقت ۾ اُلهاسنگر جو ٻرندڙ مسئلو ڪهڙو آهي ؟

سيتل : پاڻيءَ جو مسئلو ڀاري آهي. ان جو سبب

سيتل : اُلهاسنگر جي ماڻهن کي چينج کپندي هئي. ان وقت پپو ڪالاڻي اُلهاسنگر ۾ اُسريو هو ۽ هن کي سنا ڪاريہ اُلهاسنگر ۾ ڪيا هئا. اُلهاسنگر جي ماڻهن کي چينج کپندي هئي.

سوال-٧ : اوهان کي لڳي ٿو اُلهاسنگر جي جنتا برابر سجاڳہ آهي. انهن کي صحيح نيتا چونڊڻ جي ٻوجهہ آهي ؟

سيتل : منهنجي خيال موجب اُلهاسنگر جي جنتا کي برابر مئچورٽي نہ آهي. انهن کي اڃا صحيح نيتا چونڊڻ جي ٻوجهہ نہ آهي. ان جو تازو مثال ٢٠٠٢ ۾ ميونسپل چونڊن جو نتيجو آهي.

سوال-٨ : موجود دور ۾ اوهين ڇو ڪين اوپن فرنٽ ۾ آهيو ؟

سيتل : منهنجي خيال ۾ ينگ جنريشن کي موقعو ڏنو وڃي ان خيال کان مان فرنٽ ۾ نہ آهيان. پر ڏنو ويو آهي، هن وقت جي اُلهاسنگر جي BJP ينگ جنريشن برابر ڪاريہ سيوا ڪونہ ڪري رهي آهي.

سوال-٩ : تازو ميونسپل ڪارپوريشن جي چونڊن ۾ جهڙي نموني NCP وڏي لهر آندي، ان مان

ملڪ اسڪيم، ڪورٽ بلڊنگ جي باري ۾ اسيمبليءَ ۾ سوال اُٿاريا ويا. ان ڪانسواءِ ٻيا به ڪيئي ڪاريه ڪيا آهن.

سوال-۴ : ڇا اوهان جا بنيادي اصول ۽ ويچار RSS جي ڌارا ۽ ڪاريه جي مطابق رهيا آهن ؟

سيتل : مان شروع ۾ RSS شاخا ۾ ويندو هوس. ۱۹۵۲ ڪان مان RSS شاخائن ۾ وڃڻ ڇڏيو. پر منهنجي ڌارا RSS مطابق آهي. اُن سڀ هوندي به مونکي سڀني ڌرمن لاءِ پوري پوري عزت آهي، مونکي ڪنهن به ڌارمڪ ڀيد ڀاءُ ۾ وشواس ڪونه آهي.

سوال-۵ : اوهان جيڪڏهن چوٿون دفعو MLA چونڊيا وڃو ها ته ڪهڙا مکيه ڪاريه ڪيو ها ؟

سيتل : صرف سوچيو هو ته شو سينا ۽ بي.جي.پي. جو راج ايندو ۽ مونکي منسٽر ٿيڻ جي اُميد هئي ۽ ان حيثيت ۾ گهڻو ڪجهه شهرواسين ۽ سنڌين لاءِ ڪري سگهان ها !

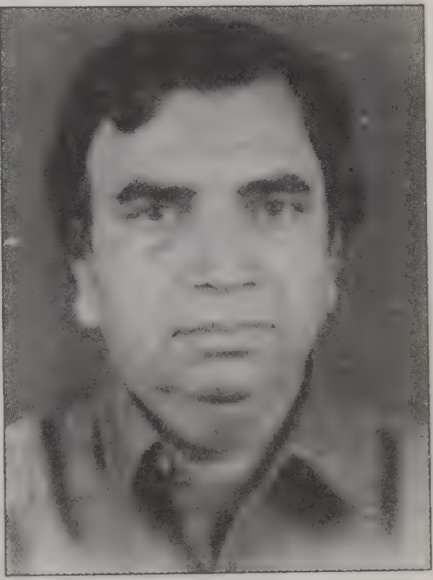
سوال-٦ : اوهين گهڻو لوڪ پريه آهيو، پر تنهن هوندي به چوٿين دفعي ۾ اوهان جي هار جا آخر ڪهڙا ڪارڻ هئا ؟

شهر جو وڪاس ئي منهنجي من ۾ هئو، چو تہ اُن وقت مون ڏٺو تہ الهاسنگر ۾ گ هٽيئي مسئلا رهيل هئا ۽ اُنهن لاءِ جوڳا قدم ڪٽڻا هئا. انهن ڪي حل ڪرڻو هو.

سوال-٣ : اوهان ٽي دفعا ساندهہ MLA چونڊيا ويا ان عرصي ۾ اوهان گهٽي ئي چڱا ڪاريہ ڪيا پر ڪهڙا ٽي خاص ڪاريہ اوهان ڪيا ؟

سيٽل : اُلهاسنگر ٣ ۽ ۴ جون گورنمينٽ هاسپيٽل بلڊنگون نهرايون ويون، ٽيليفون ايڪسچينج جيڪي اڳي مئنيوئل هيون انهن جي بدران ٽيليفون آٽو ايڪسچينج آنديون ويون، ١٨ هزار اُلهاسنگر جي ماڻهن ڪي جڳهين جون سنندون ڏياريون ويون. اهي منهنجا ٽي خاص ڪاريہ رهيا آهن. ان کان سواءِ ٻيا بہ گهٽيئي ڪاريہ هن بندي دواران ٿيا جهڙوڪ پهرين نمبر جي اور (فلائنگہ) برج، وي.ٽي.سي. سينٽر ۽ اسٽڊيم، ٽائون حال، دنيچند ڪالاڻي ڪاليج بلڊنگہ فنڊ، هيراگهاٽ جي پل، مهاراشٽر سنڌي ساهتيہ اڪادمي برپا ڪئي ويئي، اُلهاسنگر - ٥ ۾ گورنمينٽ جو گيسٽ هائوس ناهيو ويو، اُلهاسنگر ۾

انٽرويو : سريچند گرناڻي



شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي سنڌونگر جي هڪ هستي آهي، هن جي شخصيت جي جهلڪ کي اسين هنن ٿورن پڇيل سوالن ۽ ان جي جواب مان ڪي قدر پرکي ۽ پروڙي سگهون ٿا.

(سريچند گرناڻي)

سوال ١- : اوهان جي جيون جو مقصد ڪهڙو رهيو آهي ؟

سيتل : پبلڪ سيوا. جيسنائين منهنجي سرير ۾ سگهہ ۽ ساه آهي تيسنائين مان عام پبلڪ جي سيوا ڪندو رهندس. اهو ئي منهنجي جيون جو خاص مقصد رهيو آهي.

سوال-٢ : اوهان جڏهن پهرين دفعي MLA چونڊجي آيا تہ اُن وقت توهان کي ڪهڙيون حسرتون ۽ اڇائون من ۾ هيون ؟

سيتل : مان پهرين پهرين ١٩٧٨ ۾ ايم.ايل.اي. چونڊيو ويس. اسان جي شهر جي بهبودي ۽

هن هڪ نئون نعرو هنيو. شهرواسين جي پنهنجي بئنڪ - الهاسنگر ۾ الهاسنگرواسين جي پنهنجي بئنڪ ؟ عجب آهي. پر هن پنهنجي لگن ۽ پڪي اِرادي سان اهو عجب عملي ڪري ڏيکاريو. ايسر ٻارِواڻي، لال پنجابي، هوندراج پاٿيہ، هيرالال ۽ ٻين جي سهڪار سان اهو عجب عملي ڪري ڏيکاريو آهي. نوجيون بئنڪ جون اڄ چهہ برانچون آهن.

بئنڪ، اِسڪول، انهن ڪيترن ۾ نوان نوان ماڻهو ٻہ آيا. هر ڪنهن چادر جو پلئہ پاڻ ڏانهن چڪيو. پر نيٺ اٿڪ ڪوشش ۽ سڀني ماءُ واري پاونا - سيتل هر وقت ڪامياب ويو. بس هي ڪتاب ان ڪشمڪش جي اتهاس آهي. سيتل جي جفاڪشي جون حقيقتون بيان ڪيل آهن. دوستن سڄڻن جون دعائون آهن، تہ سيتل جو اهو پوکيل ٻوٽو اڃان ٻہ وڏي وڻ يا درخت بڻجي شهرواسين لاءِ چايا بڻجي ۽ بس. شاباس آهي شري نند هندوجا کي جنهن هي ڪتاب ٺاهي ان لاءِ ليکہ گڏ ڪري هنن پڙهندڙ لاءِ اٿاهہ مواد ميسر ڪيو آهي. هي پيار جو پورهيو آهي. جنهن جو ملهہ تہ پيار ئي ٿي سگهندو آهي ۽ نہ پئسو.

★ ★ ★

(شايد تنهن وقت جنتا پارٽي ۾ شريڪ هو) طرفان اميدوار بيهاريو ويو. هن کان اڳ ۾ شري سنمک ايسراڻي ميمبر هو. هو ٻه دفعا لڳاتار ميمبر ٿي چڪو هو. هن انهن چونڊن ۾ نه بيهڻ جو ويچار ڪيو. روٽري ڪلب جو پريزيڊنٽ شري سيتل چونڊيو ويو. جيئن روٽري ڪلب جا ميمبر به اخلاقي طور پنهنجي ساٿي کي مدد ڪري سگهن ۽ شري سيتل اسيمبلي چونڊن ۾ شاندار جيت پاتي سال ١٩٧٧ هو. اسان جو چويارو سيتل، وچاڻي، لڇمڻ ۽ مان ساڳيو ئي قائم رهيو. پنجون شخص آيو شري گهنشيام تلريجا جو ان وقت ميونسپل جو چيف آفيسر. روٽري ڪانفرنس تي وڃبو ته گڏجي شري سونيسر بولچند سان گڏجي سائين بابا جو به درشن ڪندا هئاسين. سيتل آهستي آهستي ماڻهن ۾ پيارو ٿيڻ لڳو. هن خلق جي خدمت ۾ پاڻ ارپي ڇڏيو. پنج سال جهٽ نبري ويا وري چونڊون آيون ۽ وري به پارٽيءَ ۽ دوستن جي زور تي سيتل اسيمبلي لاءِ بيٺو ۽ کٽي آيو. هن مهاراشٽر سنڌي ساهتيه اڪاڊمي برپا ڪرائڻ لاءِ ڪوشش ورتي ۽ اها اڪاڊمي نهي. جا اڄ سوڌو قائم آهي. جينوٽيڪ پاڻ ساهتڪ ڪينر جو نه آهي پر تعليم ڪينر ۾ ضرور اڳيرو آهي. هن نوجيون نالي هيٺ اِسڪول شروع ڪيو ته ساماجڪ ڪم به شروع ڪيا.

سال ١٩٥٨ ۾ ضيا صاحب اوچتو چالاڻو ڪيو تہ سرڪل وارن سندس عزت ۾ لئبرري جو نالو ضيا لئبرري رکيو ۽ ان سرڪل واري رستي جو نالو بہ ضيا صاحب مارگہ رکايو ويو. شايد ان موقعي تي پروفيسر رام پنجواڻي، ڪيرت ٻاٻاڻي، گوبند مالهي کي بہ گهرايو ويو هو.

سيتل سان ٿوري وڌيڪ ويجهڙائي آئي. پر اسان وڌيڪ ويجهو آياسين سال ١٩٧٠ ڌاري، جڏهن ٻئي ڄڻا اُلهاسنگر روٽري ڪلب ۾ گڏ هئاسين. ڏينهن جو چڱو حصو لڇمڻ آهوجا، ڊي.ڊي وڇاڻي، سيتل گڏ هوندا هئاسين. خاص ڪري شام جي وقت ۾.

مون هن ۾ ڪافي خوبيون، خاصيتون ڏٺيون. يارن جو يار، ڪلمڪ. ڪڏهن ڪڏهن چرچو ڪندي، سچ بہ چئي ڏيندو هو.

سيتل جو لاڙو ٻن ڳالهين ڏانهن هو. خلق خدمت ۽ سياست. خلق خدمت لاءِ نوجيون سرڪل ۽ سياست لاءِ جن سنگهہ. جن سنگهہ ۾ منهنجي وري لال دريانيءَ سان ويجهائي هئي. جو ان وقت هو جن سنگهہ جو پريزيڊنٽ هو ۽ سيتل سيڪريٽري هو.

دوستن جي زور بار تي سيتل کي مهاراشٽر جي ان وقت ايندڙ اعليٰ اليڪشن ۾ الهاسنگر مان جن سنگهہ

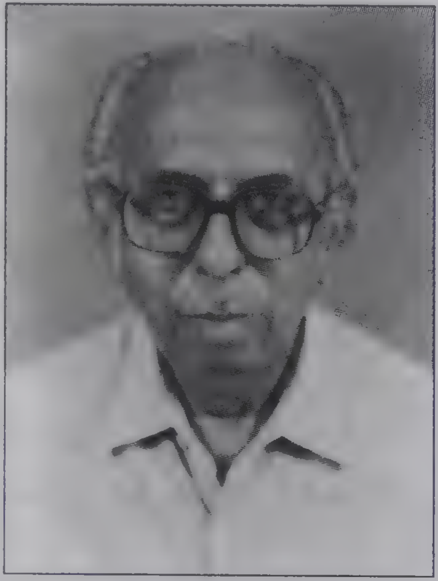
جي او.ٽي. سيڪشن، پر ڪيترن ئي ڪارڻن ڪري اچڻ وڃڻ ٿيندو هو.

وديارٿي تحرڪ جو رهنما سخاوت چوٽواڻي، ڪشن دلواڻي، او.ٽي. ۾ رهندا هئا ته ادبي کيتر جو ماهتاب شري پرسرام ضيا ۽ گائڪ ماستر چندر به او.ٽي. ۾ رهندو هو. پوءِ ڪڏهن ڪنهن بهاني ته ڪڏهن ڪنهن جي ڪري او.ٽي. ۾ اچڻ وڃڻ ٿيندو هو. اهو زمانو سال ١٩٥١ جو هو.

تڏهن اتي لڳ ڀڳ منهنجي عمر جو هڪ اتساهي نوجوان ڪم ڪندڙ پيو ڏسڻ ۾ ايندو هو. ڪڏهن سخاوت وٽ ته ڪڏهن ضيا صاحب وٽ. ان نوجوان پنهنجي ساٿين سان گڏ هڪ سنستا ناهي هئي. نوجيون سرڪل. سرڪل طرفان ڪتابن جي لئبرري به شروع ڪئي ويئي هئي ته غريب وديارٿين کي سڪولي ڪتاب سال لاءِ مفت پڙهڻ لاءِ ڏنا ويندا هئا. اها لئبرري، اها سنستا هلائڻ لاءِ بزرگن سان صلاح مصلحت ڪرڻ لاءِ شري سيتل ضيا صاحب وٽ، يا سخاوت وٽ ايندو ويندو هو. بس منهنجي ساڻس جاڻ پڇاڻ ان وقت ڌاري ان نموني ٿي. سائيڪل تي چڙهي، جدا جدا سڄڻن وٽان لئبرري لاءِ ڪتاب گڏ ڪندو هو. سرڪل طرفان هڪ ننڍي جاءِ ۾ هڪ ننڍو پارڪ به ٺهرايو ويو هو.

سنڌونگر جي سونهن سيتل

✍ نارايڻ ڀارتي



شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي جي ستر جنم دن ملهائڻ (ڊسمبر ٢٠٠٢) جي موقعي تي سندس جيون ۽ ڪاريہ بابت هڪ ڪتاب نڪري رهيو آهي. ان ڪتاب ۾ شري سيتل جي جدا جدا ڪيترن ۾ ڪيل ڪاريہ بابت الڳہ الڳہ نامور شخصن جا تاثرات پڻ ڏنا ويا آهن. ان ڪتاب جنهن کي جيڪر اڀنندن گرنٿ سڏجي تہ بہ سونهين. ان جو سمپادن ڪاريہ شري نند هندوجا ”آنند“ ڪري رهيو آهي. ان جو چوڻ آهي تہ مان ڪتاب بابت ۽ شري سيتل جي سنبنڌ ۾ مان بہ ڪجهہ لکان. ڪتاب جا ڪي صفحا ڪمپوز ٿيل منهنجي سامهون آهن. جن ۾ شري سريچند صابلاڻي جو ليکہ، شري نيوند واڌواڻي، شري سندر دنگواڻي، شري نند هندوجا ’آنند‘ جا ليکہ ۽ شري گرناڻيءَ جي شري سيتل کان ورتل ملاقات شامل آهي.

سيتل بابت لکندي - سوچيندي، اَٽڪل پنجاهہ سال اڳ جون ڳالهيون ذهن ۾ اچن ٿيون، اُلهاسنگر ٿئين

موٽرڪار پئي پيٺ ڪيائين تڏهن بہ اها اڃا هئي تہ ستگرو سوامي شانتي پرڪاش مهراج اچي آسيس ڪن. سوامي جن ان موقعي تي پياري سيتلداس جي گٽن جو ورٽن ڪندي آسيس ڪئي ۽ پنهنجي ڪر ڪملن سان موٽر سيتلداس کي پيٺ ڪئي.

سنڌونگر ۾ گونگن ٻوڙن ۽ گهٽ دماغ جي ٻارن لاءِ اسڪول برپا ڪرڻ، جس لوڪ هاءِ اسڪول شروع ڪرڻ ۾ مکيہ يوگدان پياري سيتلداس جو آهي. هن پنهنجي عرصي ۾ مهاراشٽر اسيمبليءَ ۾ ڪيترائي پيرا سنڌونگر جي مسئلن جو ڌيان ڇڪائيندي سرڪار کان گهر ڪئي. انهن مسئلن کي دور ڪرڻ لاءِ عملي قدم کنيا.

شري سيتلداس پنهنجي گهر گرهست، ڌنڌي وهنوار جون جوابداريون پوريءَ ريت نباهيندي، سياست جي کيتر ۾ بہ سڪريہ رهيو آهي ۽ سماج سيوا جي ميدان ۾ بہ سوڀ جو سهرو ٻڌو اٿائين، ان لاءِ هوُ بيشڪ داد لائق آهي. پرماتما کيس سٺي صحت ۽ وڏي آورجا بخشي جو هوُ ديش ۽ جاتيءَ جا وڏيڪ ڳهڙا پريندو رهي.

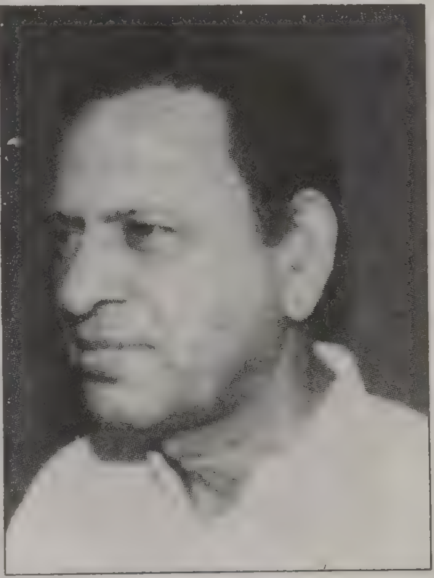
* * *

پيارو سيتلداس مهاراشٽر سرڪار جو ڪن ڪاميٽين جو سرگرم ميمبر ٿي سجهاوَ ڏيندو رهيو آهي. هي نشناوان نيتا آهي. پنهنجي سياسي پارٽي پارٽيه جنتا پارٽي سان به پوريءَ ريت نباهيندي مخالفتي پارٽين جي ڪاريه ڪرتائن سان به محبت نباهيندو رهيو آهي، پنهنجي مقناطيسي مشڪ سان ڏارين کي پنهنجو بڻائڻ جي ڪوشش ڪئي اٿائين.

شري سيتلداس سياست ۾ ته پاڻ موڪيو آهي پر تعليمي ۽ سماجڪ کيتر ۾ پڻ ساراهه جوڳو ڪاريه ڪيو اٿائين. مخالفتي ماڻهو هر کيتر ۾ هر ڪنهن جا ٿيندا آهن. منش کي وويڪ انوسار قدم اڳتي وڌائڻ گهرجي. نوجيون بئنڪ به سندس ئي سپنو هو جنهن کي هن ساڪار ڪيو. ستگرو سوامي شانتي پرڪاش مهراجن ۾ پياري سيتلداس جو پورو پورو وشواس پئي رهيو آهي. انڪري هن نوجيون بئنڪ سنڌونگر - ٣ جو مهورت پڻ ستگرو سوامي شانتي پرڪاش مهاراجن کان ڪرايو. نوجيون بئنڪ، سنڌونگر - ٢ جو مهورت پڻ ستگرو مهاراجن کان ڪرايو. سنڌيءَ ۽ ڪارخانيدارن، چاهي وچولي پوش ڏنڏي ڪرڻ لاءِ هيءَ بئنڪ سرگرم رهي. ان جو شريه پياري سيتلداس کي ئي آهي.

سنڌونگرواسين شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻيءَ جي ڪيل خدمتن جي قدرشناسي ڪرڻ لاءِ جڏهن ڪيس

هردل عزيز انسان
شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي



✍ڊاڪٽر ديال 'آشا'

سنسار جي رنگہ منچ تي هرڪو پنهنجو پارٽ ادا ڪري ٿو. ڪي ڪي سڄڻ اهڙو تہ اثرائتو پارٽ ادا ڪن ٿا جو هزارين دلين تي پنهنجي ڇاپ ڇڏين ٿا. شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي اهڙين شخصتين مان آهي جنهن پنهنجي شپ ڪرمن جي سرهاڻ سان هزارن انسانن کي متاثر ڪيو آهي.

پياري سيتلداس تي سندن ماتا پتا جهڙو نالو سيتل رکيو اهڙو ئي هوُ سياءُ جو سيتل آهي. هن پنهنجي نالي کي سارٿڪ ڪيو آهي. شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي پنهنجي لوڪ پريتا سبب ساندهہ ٽي دفعا مهاراشٽرا اسيمبليءَ جو ميمبر چونڊجي آيو. ڪنهنجو ڪيل ڪاريہ اجايو نہ ٿو وڃي.

ڪندو رھ جڳت ۾ سين سان ڀلائي،
سدا سائين تو سان ٿيندو سهائي.

★ ’’سيتل هڪ آبدار موتي مثل آهي ۽ آپي کان خالي آهي.‘‘

★ ’’سيتل ٻه ڪيترن غلط ماڻهن کي غلط فائدا ڏنا آهن، ڇاڪاڻ ته هي ڀولو مهاديو جي مثل آهي.‘‘

★ ’’هرچنداڻي صاحب پاڻ کي ۽ سنڌونگر کي وڏو فائدو پهچايو آهي. هن جي اِها ڪلا سکڻ گهرجي.

★ ’’سنڌونگر ۾ سنمکه ايسراڻي جو يگه ڏنوسين، سيتل جو يگه پيي ڏنو. هن وقت سريش ڪالاڻي جو چڪتاڻ وارو يگه ٻه هلي ٿو، پر سيتل جو يگه اجا سماپت ڪونه ٿيو آهي.‘‘

★ ’’سنڌونگرواسين جي قسمت ۾ سيتل جهڙو وري ٻيو ايم.ايل.اي. ۽ ڪاريه ڪرتا شايد ڪونه ملندو.‘‘

★ ’’سيتل جي شخصيت ۽ ڪارين جي سرهاڻا يڱن تائين قائم رهندي.‘‘

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★ ”سيتل ۾ ڪو ڏوهه ڪونهي، پر هن جو وڏو ڏوهه اهو آهي ته هن پاڻ جهڙو ٻيو ڪوئي پيدا ڪونه ڪيو آهي.“

★ ”سنڌونگر مان سيتل هرچنداڻي جو اجا يگه پورو ڪونه ٿيو آهي. ڇو ته هن جون شيوائون جاري آهن.“

★ ”هرچنداڻي، پنهنجي اڪيلي سر ايترا اڪيچار ڪاريه ڪيل آهن اگر هي صاحب ٽيم ٺاهي يا پارٽيءَ سان ملي ڪري ڪاريه ڪري ها ته وڌيڪ ڪارگر ٿئي ها.“

★ ”پبلڪ ڪاريه ڪندي، ڪي ماڻهو سيتل مان ناراض به هوندا هئا، پر هن جو مشڪي ڳالهائڻ ۽ همدرد رهڻ جڻ هر ڪنهن جو دکه ۽ ناراضگي وساري ڇڏيندو هو.“

★ ”سيتلداس خود ۾ هڪ وڏي سنسٿا آهي. هڪ اهڙو ته ڇانوَ وارو شاهي درخت آهي، جو هن جي ڀر ۾ ٻيو ڪو وڻ اُسريو وڌي ئي ڪونه سگهيو آهي.“

★ ”سيتلداس هرچنداڻي ۾ ماڻهوءَ کي سڃاڻڻ جي لياقت ته وڏي آهي، پر تنهن هوندي به هن جي ڪيمي ۾ غلط ۽ سوارٿي ماڻهو گسي اچن ٿا، پر پوءِ جلد اُهي پوئين در کان ڀڄي ويندا آهن.“

★ ”سيتل خود ٽاورنگ پرسنليٽي آهي، پر پارٽي لاءِ قابل ٽيم پئدا ڪري ڪونه سگهيو آهي.“

★ ”سيتل ۾ ڪوئي عيب ڏسڻ ۾ ڪونه ٿو اچي، ڪوبہ شخص ڪونهي جيڪو هن صاحب لاءِ چئي ته هي ڀرشٽاچاري، دوڪيباز يا ڪنهن بہ طرح غلط ماڻهو آهي.“

★ ”سيتل سدائي بي.جي.پي. ۾ خال پيدا ڪري رکيو آهي، جيڪو هن ڪانپوءِ ڪنهن بہ ڪونه ڀريو آهي، ان مان لڳي ٿو انهيءَ لاءِ خود سيتل ئي گهڻي قدر جوابدار آهي.“

★ ”سيتل عام لوڪن سان ۽ رواجي ماڻهن سان ڳالهائيندو هو، اهي اهڙا چيڙائيندڙ سوال ڪندا هئا ۽ بي واجب گفتا ڪيندا هئا جو اسان ٻڌندڙ کي غصو ايندو هو، مگر سيتلداس انهن کي ڌيرج سان ويهي ٻڌندو هو، جواب ڏيندو ۽ وس پڄندي انهن جي ڀلائي ڀڻ ڪندو هو. اهو گڻ ماڻهن جو نہ بلڪ ديوتائن جو آهي.

★ ”سيتلداس جيترو فيش، سنڌونگر کي ڀهچايو آهي، اوترو پنهنجي پارٽيءَ کي ڪونہ چاڙهي سگهيو آهي.“

★ ”سيتلداس جي خود سمهڻ سان، سنڌونگر ۾ بي.جي.پي. بہ سمهي پئي آهي.“

پنهنجون سيوائون لڳاتار ڏيندو رهي ٿو. حالانڪ هن وقت هي صاحب ايم.ايل.اي. پد تي ڪونہ آهي ۽ بيحد مشغول هوندي بہ عام جي سيوا ۾ هر روز شام جو آفيس ۾ حاضر رهندو آهي ڇو تہ سيتل جو چوڻ آهي، ”جان جيئن تہ سيوا ۾ نت جيون سنوار“ ’چلنا جيون ڪي ڪهاني‘ ۾ پڻ وشواس اٿس.

★ سيتل لاءِ عام جا رايا ۽ ڪجهہ کٽا مٺا انگور

هن ڪتاب لکڻ جي سلسلي ۾، سنڌونگر جي ڪيترن شخصن سان ملاقات ٿي، جنهن ۾ هر طبقي، پيشي، واپار - سروس واري ڪي خاص ۽ ڪي عام لوڪ هئا. انهن جيڪي ڪجهہ سيتل لاءِ ڳالهايو، رايو ڏنو يا تنقيد ڪئي آهي، اها مختسر ۾، بنا ڪنهن نالي ڏيڻ جي ڏيئي رهيو آهيان.

★ ”سيتلداس هڪ رواجي انسان آهي، مگر هنجا ڪيل ڪاريہ ٻڌائين ٿا تہ هي غيررواجي ۽ اعليٰ انسان آهي.“

★ ”سيتل گهڻو ڳالهائي ڪونہ ٿو، شايد ڳالهائڻ ۾ ايترو ماهر ۽ هوشيار ڪونهي، مگر هن صاحب جا ڪرم ڪاريہ، صدين تائين ڳايا ويندا.“

★ ”سيتل پاڻ بلندي تي پهتو، مگر پنهنجي پنيان چڙهڻ ۾ ڪنهن کي بہ مدد ڪونہ ڪئي اٿائين.“

بئرڪن ۾ پراپت ٿيا.

★ سيتلداس، شهر جي ڪيترن سوشل ۽ پنگتي سنستائن سان جڙيل آهي. جن جي وسيلي هو صاحب شهرواسين جي ڀلائي جا ڪاريه ڪندو رهي ٿو. ملڪ اسڪيم جي شروعات پڻ سيتلداس شهر ۾ آندي هئي.

★ شهر ۾ انٽرنئشنل روٽري ڪلب جو سيتل فائونڊر ميمبر ۽ ٻه دفعا پريزيڊنٽ جي حيثيت ۾ پد ماڻي عام جي خدمت ۽ ڀلائي جا ڪاريه ڪيا اٿس.

★ هن وقت سيتلداس، نوجيون بئنڪس جو مئنيجنگ ڊائريڪٽر ٿي ڪم ڪري رهيو آهي ۽ اٽڪل سو ڪروڙ کان مٿي ڊپازٽ اٿس. ٿاڻا ڊسٽرڪٽ ۾ وڏي ۾ وڏي ڪاروبار هنن بئنڪس جو هلي رهيو آهي.

★ هي صاحب الهاسنگر وٺلواڙي ريلوي پئسينجرس ائسوسئيشن جو پريزيڊنٽ رهيو. انهن ٻنهي اسٽيشن کي ماڊرن سهوليتون ڏيڻ لاءِ گهڻي ڪوشش ڪئي اٿس، ڪافي ڪامياب رهيو آهي، مگر اجا الهاسنگر اسٽيشن تي رزرويشنل سهوليت لاءِ جاکوڙ جاري اٿس.

★ سيتل جي ڪوشش سان مهاراشٽر ۾ پهريون دفعو سنڌي ساهتيه اڪادميءَ جو نرماڻ ٿيو، جيڪا هن مهل تائين پنهنجو ڪاريه ڪري رهي آهي.

هن مهل تائين - سيتلداس پبلڪ سيوا لاءِ اجا

هلنديءَ وارن کي ملندو هو. انهيءَ آزار مان پار ٻه سيتل جي ڪوشش ڪيو. پهريون آٽوميٽڪ ٽيليفون ايڪسچينج سسٽم آندو. پلاٽ خالي ڪرائي نيو ٽيليفون ايڪسچينج لاءِ بلڊنگ جو نرماڻ ڪرايو.

★ هن صاحب جي ڪوشش سان الهاسنگر چوٿين ۾ مئٽرنٽي ۽ او.پي.ڊي. هاسپيٽل جي شاندار بلڊنگ جو نرماڻ ٿيو. ان بعد مزدورن جي علاج لاءِ سينٽرل گورنمينٽ کان اي.ايس.آءِ. هاسپيٽل جو وجود ٻه ٿيو. ان بعد سينٽرل هاسپيٽل جي شاهي عمارت جو نرماڻ ٿيو، جيڪا سڄي تعلقا ليول تي ڪم ڪرڻ لڳي آهي. ڪرجت کان وٺي ڪلوا تائين ٻي اهڙي مادرن هاسپيٽل ڪونهي.

★ الهاسنگر پنجين ۾ گورنمينٽ گيسٽ هائوس ٻه سيتل جي ايامڪاري ۾ تيار ٿيو. ان کان پوءِ ايم.ايل.اي فنڊ مان هڪ ڪروڙ جي لاڳت سان شهر لاءِ ٽائون هال جو نرماڻ ٿيو. شهر لاءِ ٻه نوان پرائمري اسڪول بلڊنگ پڻ سندس ڪوشش سان نرماڻ ٿيون. ان کانسواءِ هيرا گهاٽ جي پل کي نئين سر نهرائي، الهاسنگر جي چوٿين پنجين نمبر کي شهر جي پهرين - ٻين ۽ ٽين نمبر سان ڳنڍيو ويو. سيتل جي ڪوشش سان لڳ ڀڳ ويهه هزار ماڻهن کي پنهنجا گهر ۽ اجها

☆ اليڪٽرڪسٽي سپلاءِ

الهاسنگر ڏسندي ڏسندي ڪئمپ مان بدلجي وڏو شهر بڻجي ويو. مگر بجلي سپلاءِ بورڊ جو محدود اختياريون هيون. جن لاءِ سيتل هرچنداڻي ڪلياڻ امبرناٿ روڊ تي پلاٽ نمبر ١٧٨، الاٽ ڪرائي، ايم.ايس.سي. بورڊ کي آفيس ۽ ورڪشاپ لاءِ ميسر ڪري ڏنو. شري سيتلداس بجلي بورڊ جا ٻه سيڪشن ڪرايا، هڪ ڪئمپ نمبر ١، ٢، ٣ لاءِ ۽ ٻيو ٤، ٥ لاءِ. شهر جي جدا جدا سيڪشن لاءِ الڳ الڳ ٽرنسفارميٽر لڳارايا. انڪري الهاسنگر ۾ بجلي جي ڪافي سهوليت ميسر ٿي، مگر اڃا ڪافي سڌاري جي ايم.ايس. اليڪٽرسٽي بورڊ کي ضرورت آهي.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻي جي جفاڪشيءَ سان شهد ڦاٽڪ پرسان ريلوي لائينس مٿان، الهاسنگر ۽ ڪلياڻ شهر کي ملائڻ لاءِ اوئر فلاءِ برج جو نرماڻ ٿيو، جنهن جو فائدو عام لوڪن کي واپار ۽ آمدرفت ۾ بيحد گهڻو پيو آهي.

☆ ٽيليفون

الهاسنگر لاءِ هن کان اڳ مئنيول ٽيليفون جاري هو، جنهن ۾ نمبر پليس جي رسيور اڌ ڪلاڪ هٿ ۾ جهلڻو پوندو هو. پهريون وجهه ڳالهائڻ جو وڏيرن ۽

هلندڙ وڏن ڪارخانن ۽ لومن جي مالڪ ۽ مزدورن ۾ سهيوگ ۽ سهڪار رهي، اها سندس سدا ڪوشش رهندي هئي. ڪڏهن ڪڏهن مزدورن جي مناسب طلبن کي وٽي، ڪارخانيدار مالڪ مڃڻ لاءِ تيار ڪونہ هوندا هئا، تہ سيتل جو ساٿ هميشهہ غريب مزدور طبقي طرف رهندو هو. هن صاحب شهر کان ٻاهر ڪارخانيدارن لاءِ ايم.آءِ.ڊي. يونٽ کڙو ڪرايو. سلم ايراضين ۾ سڌارو پڻ آندو ويو.

الهاسنگر شهر جي ارد گرد جيڪي جهوپڙپٽي آهي، انهن واسطي بنيادي ناگرڪ واريون ضروري سهوليتون ميسر ڪرايون :

☆ واٽر سپلاءِ اسڪيم

الهاسنگر ۾ آدمشماري جي ترت واڌ سبب پاڻيءَ جو مسئلو پئدا ٿيو هو. جنهن واسطي ايم.ايل.اي فنڊ مان ڪجهہ رقم ۽ واٽر سپلاءِ کان ٻن ڪروڙ اٺويهن لکہ روپين جي هڪ يوجنا بحال ڪرائي، جنهن موجب ان وقت کان وٺي، شهر لاءِ پاڻيءَ جو ڪجهہ مسئلو حل ٿيو، پر ڏسجي تہ شهر لاءِ پاڻيءَ جو مسئلو گنڀير هو، جيڪو اجان تائين حل ڪونہ ٿيو آهي. سيتلداس شهروارن لاءِ اين.او.سي. (N.O.C.) جي وٺڻ جي آزار کان پڻ آجو ڪرايو.

۾ آواز اُٿاريو، شڪايتون ۽ عريضا موڪليا، واسطو رکندڙ آفيسرن سان ملندو هو، صرف اڌڪارين سان نہ مليو مگر منترين ۽ مکيہ منتريءَ سان پڻ وقت بہ وقت ملي، سنڌونگر جي مسئلن کي حل ڪندو رهيو ۽ شهرواسين کي انصاف ۽ حق ڏياريندو رهيو. هن صاحب مهاراشٽر جي گرهہ منتري شري پائي وئديہ کي ڪيترا دفعا الهاسنگر ۾ آڻي، حالتن کان واقف ڪرايو ۽ ڪاريہ ڪرايا.

سيتل جي وقت کان اڳہ، شهر ۾ لئنڊ گرئبر ۽ گونڊن جا گروپ هئا. جنهنڪري انهن کي مُنهن ڏيڻ لاءِ الهاسنگر لاءِ اسپيشل پوليس ڊپٽي ڪمشنر جو عهدو مقرر ڪرايو، جيئن شهر اندر امن امان قائم رهي. ساڳي وقت شهد ۽ ونلواڙي پوليس ٿاڻا اپ گريڊ بڻايا ويا. اُتي سرڪل ۾ انسپيڪٽرس مقرر ڪرايا ويا. انهيءَ ڪري گهڻي قدر شهر اندر گناهن ۽ گونڊن جي ڪاروائي تي روڪ پئي.

شري سيتل هرچنداڻي پوليس ڪرمچارن جي سهوليت ۽ رهڻ لاءِ گهرن جو هت اُلهاسنگر-۴ ۾ بندوبست ڪرايو، پوليس ۽ عام جي سمپرڪ لاءِ ليئزن ڪاميٽي جو وجود آندو.

هنري ڪيتر ۾ سڌاري لاءِ سيتل نندڙن گهرو هنر کي همٿائڻ لاءِ وڪاس يوجنا عمل ۾ آندي. الهاسنگر ۾

☆ سيتل جو سياسي ڪاريه ۾ سڦلتائون

سيتل پنهنجي پارٽي ڏانهن، پاڻ ڏانهن ۽ پبلڪ ڏانهن فرض شناس رهي، ايترا ته اڪيچار ڪاريه ڪيا، جن جو ذڪر ڪبو ته ٻيا ارڙهان پورا اڏياءَ قلم بند ٿي سگهندا !

هن صاحب هر ڏينهن جي ٢٤ ڪلاڪن کي ٽن حصن ۾ ورهايو. ٨ ڪلاڪ پبلڪ سيوا، ٨ ڪلاڪ لوڪن جا ڏک درد ٻڌڻ ۽ نوارڻ ڪرڻ ۽ باقي ڏينهن جو حصو پنهنجي لاءِ پنهنجي فئملي لاءِ رکيو. هي صاحب هفتي ۾ هڪ ڏينهن منتراليه ۾، ائڊمنسٽريٽ آفيس ۾ لوڪل مسئلن حل ڪرڻ لاءِ ڏيندو هو ساڳي وقت هر روز شام جو ٦ بجي کان ٨ بجي رات تائين پنهنجي آفيس لڪچمي مارڪيٽ ۾ حاضر رهندو هو، جتي روبرو، لوڪ ڪيس ملندا آهن، پنهنجا ڏک درد ٻڌائيندا هئا. جن جو تعدارڪ پڻ ٿيندو هو. پنهنجي آفيس ۾ ڪليمن، پيپرن تي سرٽيفڪيٽس تي، في معاف فارمن، پاسپورٽن وغيره تي صحي ڪرڻ لاءِ هڪيو تڪيو سيتل ملندو هو.

مهاراشٽر وڌان سڀا تي چونڊجڻ بعد، يڪدم شري سيتل هرچنداڻي، شهر جي هر ٻرندڙ مسئلي کي سمجهيو ۽ بيحد ضروري سوالن کي کڻي، هن اسيمبلي

صاحب ڏسڻ ۾ شاندار ۽ سنڌين جو شاهاڻو رچ مڙس ۽ مدبر لڳندو هو. جيتري اعليٰ شخصيت ۽ لياقت هيس، اوترو فيض نه ته هن صاحب سنڌونگر کي پهچايو ۽ نه وري سنڌي ڀائرن جي خاص ڀلائي ۽ بهبودي آڻي سگهيو. بس ڏسڻ جو ڏيل هو! جنهنڪري سنڌونگرواسين جلد هن کي وساري ڇڏيو، ايتري قدر جو سرڳواس ٿيڻ بعد به ماڻهن کي خبر نه آهي ته سنمکه مري ويو آهي الائي جيئرو آهي! هن بعد وري اڃا تائين الهاسنگر ۾ ڪانگريس جي ڪنهن به اميدوار اسيمبليءَ جي سيٽ ڪونه کٽي آهي.

سمنڪه ايسراڻي بعد، آيو يگه سيتل هرچنداڻيءَ جو، لڳاتار لڳ ڀڳ اِهو دوُر پندرهان سال ١٩٧٨ کان ١٩٩٠ تائين هليو ۽ جاري آهي. ان وقت، ملڪ ۾ نئين لهر آئي، ڀارت ۾ اندران يگه ختم ٿيو هو، جنتا راڄ آيو. جئه پرڪاش نارايڻ جي پريرڻا سان هندستان جي سياست ۾ نئون ورق وريو. ڀارتيه جن سنگهه جنتا جي ڌارا ۾ سوشلسٽ پارٽين سان ملي ڪري جنتا پارٽي ناهي. اسان جو سنڌونگر پڻ ڀارت جي انهيءَ سونهري انقلاب جو حصو بڻيو. مهاراشٽر جي وڌان سڀا جي ٽڪيٽ سيتل کي ملي. سيتل سوپ ڀي پاتي، اهڙي نموني سنڌونگر ۾ سيتل يگه جو آرنڀ ٿيو.

ٻه دفعا هار ٿي جنهن مان هن سبق سکيو ته دني
بدلجندي رهي ٿي ۽ هن اهو به سوچي ورتو ته وقت
نڪري ويو آهي ۽ وري ڪڏهن هاڻي هن سياست ۾
اليڪشن ڪونه لڙندو.

انهيءَ هار واري عرصي ۾ سيتل جو سمورو ڌيان
سياست مان ڪڇي نوجيون بئنڪ جي وڪاس ۽ واڌاري
ڏانهن پيو. انهيءَ نوجيون هلچل، سيتل جي جيون ۽
سنڌونگر جي ترقيءَ واري راهه ۾ سچ پچ نئون جيون
۽ نئون عمدو موڙ آندو آهي.

سنڌونگر ۾ سيتل يگه کان اڳه سنمکه ايسراڻي يگ
هو. هي صاحب ٻه دفعا لڳاتار ڪانگريس ٽڪيٽ تي
کٽي آيو هو. سنمکه به سنڌونگر جو شان مان وڌايو هو.
سنه ١٩٦٧ کان لڳاتار ١٩٧٧ تائين سنمکه جو عرصو
هليو. ايسراڻي صاحب شهر جي پلاٽن جو سوال پئڪيج
ڊيل موجب بچايو. شهر اندر جهوپڙ پٽي ڦهلائڻ کي
روڪڻ چاهيو پر ڪجهه ڪري ڪونه سگهيو، چوته گهڻ
پلاٽ هن پاڻ ۽ پنهنجن مائٽن يارن، سنگتين کي
ڏياريا، جنهنڪري نيڪو پڻ رد ٿيو هو. پوءِ شهر جو
سڌارو ۽ واڌارو خئر ڪو ڪيو. حالانڪ هن به سهڻو خواب
لڌو هو ته الهاسنگر کي پنهنجو شهر لاڙڪاڻو بڻايان!
پر هن ۾ لگن ۽ سيوا ڀاوَ جي ڪمي هئي. سنمک

سوال آهي تہ پوءِ ايتري لياقت ۽ آزمودي هوندي ہ چو چوٿين دفعي سيتل کي ڪراري هار ڏسڻي پيئي ؟

ها، جواب ۾ سيتل بلڪل سنپل ۽ صاف لفظن ۾ چيو آهي تہ ”سنڌونگر جا عام لوڪ، ڪجھ بدلاءُ چاهين پيا.“

ڏسو، ايترو چئي سيتل نہ تہ پاڻ کي هيڻرو ڪيو ۽ نہ وري ٻين تي الزام هنيون ۽ نہ پبلڪ لاءِ ڏکہ ڏوراپو ڏنو.

ها، ليڪن، سمجھو ۽ سياست ۾ رهندڙ عام ماڻهن جو رايو آهي تہ سيتل جي شڪست جا ڪيترائي ڪارڻ هئا. پهريون تہ سندس ساٿي، ساڻ هوندي، گڏ گھمندڙ، ي طرف لوڀ لالچ ۾ هليا ويا. سندس پنهنجا ايرڪا ۽ ساڙ سبب پراوا بڻجي چڪا هئا، سندس جي گھٽي شهرت ۽ پل مانسائي آڏو آيس !

مگر ڏسجي تہ اسان جي ويچار ۾ سيتل جي هار جو مکيہ ڪارڻ هو تہ سندس سامهون شري پپو (سريش) ڪلاڻي هو، هي نوجوان وڏو ڪلاڙي ۽ وڏو ڪرشمو آهي. هڪ شخص پبلڪ جي هر طبقي مٿان طلسم جيان چانئجي ويو. سيتل جي سامهون واري ۾ ايترا تہ بيشمار گڻ ۽ اوترائي اوگڻ هئا، جن جو جوڙ سيتل جي شخصيت کي پار ڪري ويو ۽ سيتل جي هڪ نہ بلڪ

کي ڏسي غريب بهار ٿي ويندا هئا. هنن کي ائين لڳندو هو تہ ضرور هي انسان مسيحا بڻجي سندن جا دکہ درد دور ڪندو. جنهنڪري هن کي غريبن جهوپڙپٽين وارن ڀرپور ووٽ ڪيا.

بئرڪن ۾ جڏهن سيتل چونڊن جي چڪر ۾ ايندو هو تہ گهر مان گهرڌياڻيون بنا ڪنهن حجاب جي، بنا رَئي ڊُپٽي ڪانسواءِ ٻاهر نڪري هن جي آجيان ڪنديون هيون، جڻ تہ هن کي ڏسڻ لاءِ منتظر رهنديون هيون.

ساڌن سنتن جي مندر ٽڪاڻن ۾ هي شخص جڏهن گهرندو هو تہ انهن ساڌن سنتن جو چهرو هن اڳيان ڦڪو لڳندو هو ۽ اُهي مهنت سنت پڻ ڪيس هٿ جوڙي نمسڪار ڪندا هئا.

دوڪاندار ڀائر بہ ڪيس ڏسي گد گد ٿيندا هئا. هن سان ملي پاڻ کي وڏڀاڳي سمجهندا هئا. اهو ڏسي چونڊن کان اڳہ ئي چونڊن جي نتيجي جي ڄاڻ پئجي ويندي هئي تہ سيتل کي سوڀارو ٿيندو سيتل ڪو لهر لوڏو ڪونهي !

★ سيتلداس، ڀارت ۾ پهريون ايم.ايل.اي هو جنهن وڌان سڀا ۾ سنڌي ۾ قسم کڻي سنڌي ٻولي ۽ سنڌيت جو شان وڌايو.

هڪ شخص، شل - ول، ڪوڙ ڪپٽ يا گهٽي قدر بي - ايماني، بد - اخلاقيءَ مان ڪين ڄاڻي، ڏسنداسين ته سياست ۾ ڪامياب ويندڙ ڪوبه شخص اهڙو اڳوان ڪونهي، جنهن داوُ - پيچ هلائڻ ڪانسواءِ پاڻ کي مٿيرو اڳرو ۽ جبرو ڪيو هجي. سڀ راڄنيتڪ هستيون، سام پيد ۽ دنڊ واري نيتي اختيار ڪن ٿا، پر سيتل، اهو سڀ ڪجهه ڪونه ڪيو آهي ۽ پوءِ به لڳاتار ٽي دفعا ساندهه مهاراشٽرا اسيمبليءَ ۾ هئٽرڪ جيت حاصل ڪري چڪو آهي. ڪو راڄنيتي داوَ - پيچ نه هلائيندي ! سيتل درحقيقت اڄ جي پوليٽڪل ليول جو اڳوان ئي ڪونهي، پر تنهن هوندي پالٽڪس ۾ رهي جيترو جس ۽ رس هن شخص ڪمايو آهي، اها حد ۽ سرحد شايد ئي ڪوئي پار ڪري سگهندو ! ان سوال جو به جواب ڪونهي ؟

☆ سيتل يگه

سيتل جڏهن جهوپڙپٽين ۾ ووٽ گهرڻ لاءِ هلندو هو ته انهن گندين بستين اندر گهڙندي ٻيا ساٿي نڪ ۽ وات تي هٿ رکندا هئا. مگر سيتل کلئي دل سان، خوش ٿي انهن ماڻهن کي ڪيڪاريندو هو. ائين ان وقت لڳندو هو، ڄڻ غريبن جي بستي ۾ ڪو ملائڪ ۽ ملوڪ انسان هليو آيو آهي. هنجي نماڻي چهري ۽ پنهنجائپ

آيا، اهڙن شخص جي لسٽ وڏي آهي مگر اُهي سڀ جا سڀ شخص هن جي تنبوءَ مان سندس دشمن بڻجي ٻاهر نڪري ويا آهن، اُهو بہ سوال اُٿي ٿو تہ ايترن ساٿين کي ناراض ڪرڻ ۾ ڪٿي سيتل جي سياءُ ۾ تہ ڪا وڏ يا ڪمزوري ڪونهي ! يا گهٽي قدر دنيا ۽ دنيا وارا گهٽا مطلبي آهن. جن سيتل مان جيترو پاتو ۽ پائي پڪڙجي پيا ۽ پوءِ پڇي ويا. مگر ڏسڻ ۾ اچي ٿو تہ سيتل کان دور ويل اُهي شخص خوش ڪونہ آهن ۽ سيتل سدا سنتوش ۽ سرهو ملندو آهي.

ايترو عقلمندن کان دور رهندي بہ سيتل سدائين عقل کان پئي ڪم ورتو آهي. سيتل ڀين جي دماغ جو ڪڏهن فائدو ڪونہ ورتو، بس جيڪو ڪيس سمجهہ ۾ آيو يا قدرت چوايس اهو ڪاريہ ڪيو اٿائين.

هي عاليشان جسلوڪ هاءِ اِسڪول، سنڌي ۽ انگريزي ميڊيم سان هلندڙ، اٽڪل چئن هزارن کان مٿي وديارٿي تعليم حاصل ڪري رهيا آهن. ان سان گڏوگڏ ڪي.سي. اسڪول جيڪو گونگن - ٻوڙن کي سکيا ڏيڻ لاءِ هلي رهيو آهي. سائين بابا ايڊيوڪيشن ٽرسٽ جنهن ۾ دماغي ڪمزور (Mentally Retarded) وارا ٻار سکيا ۽ تعليم حاصل ڪري رهيا آهن، اهي سڀ سيوا ڪاريہ ٻڌائي رهيا آهن تہ سيتل هڪ انسان ۽ سڦل انسان آهي.

۾ ڪتڻ ۽ ان بعد وري هارائڻ. نوجيون بئنڪ کي وڏو لوڏو آيو اُفواه اُٿيا، دشمنن طرفان، الائي دوستن طرفان تہ سيتل بئنڪن کي ڪتائڻ ٿو چاهي. ڊپ ۾ سڀني، سندس مائٽن ۽ عزيز بہ پنهنجي رقم ڪڍائي. اهو ڪانڊ سيتل جي جيون جو وڏو ڀاري طوفان هو. سون جيئن آگ ۾ جلندو آهي، سيتل ڀي انهيءَ ڪٺن پريکشا مان بلڪل پار پهتو. دشمنن جو منهن پيلو ٿيو ۽ سيتل سرهو رهيو ۽ هن وقت نوجيون جون ڇهہ الڳ الڳ هنڌن تي برانچون هلن ٿيون، هڪ شاندار هيڊ آفيس سڀ بئنڪون ڪامپيوٽرائيڊ، ائرڪنڊيشن ۽ ڪروڙن جي ڊپازٽ سان سڀني نئشنلائيزم بئنڪن کان بہ وڌيڪ ڪاروبار ۽ ڪريڊٽ سان هلي رهيون آهن ۽ جلد ٻيون نئيون برانچون الهاسنگر کان ٻاهر پڻ کولڻ جو اعلان ڪيو اٿس.

سيتل جي پرائيويٽ لائيف، چاهي پبلڪ لائين ۾ هن سان ذهني ۽ هوشيار ماڻهو ۽ ساٿي گهٽ نظر ايندا آهن. ڪيترن جو الزام آهي تہ سيتل جي منڊلي ۾ گهڻي قدر رواجي ماڻهو ملندا آن، هن کي ذهني ۽ ماهر ماڻهو منجهائيندا آهن يا ائين ڪٽي چئجي تہ ذهني ۽ عقلمند ماڻهن کان سيتل پري رهندو آهي، هن جي ڪاريہ ڪيتر ۾ جيترا بہ سياڻا ۽ سمجهو ساٿي دوست

ماهر نہ هوندي بہ بئنڪن جي ڪروڙن جو ڪاروبار
بلڪل ڪاميابي سان هلائي پيو. اهو عام جو سوال آهي
تہ سيتل جيءَ اندر، اها ڪهڙي ٻوجهہ آهي ! يا ڪا
قدرت جي مهر آهي جو سيتل سدا سرهو، سنتوشي ۽
سڦل پئي رهيو آهي.

سيتل جو چهرو ڏسندا تہ لڳندوَ هن کي هن شهر جي
پوليوشن جو اثر ئي ڪونہ ٿيو آهي. حالانڪ سيتل گھڻو
ڪلندو ڪونهي نہ وري سندس سڀاءُ هيومرس وارو آهي،
ليڪن هن ٽينشن جي يگہ ۾ بہ هڪ شخص پنهنجي
مزاج ۾ خوش لڳندو آهي. ماڊرن رشي لڳندو آهي.

سيتل زندگيءَ ۾ گھڻو سوچيو ئي ڪونهي ۽ سوچڻ
سندس سڀاوَ ۾ آهي ئي ڪونہ، پر ڏسندا تہ هردم تازو
توانو ۽ سکي. اهو پڻ سوچڻ جهڙو سوال آهي تہ گهڻي
قدر، سوچ ۽ گنڀير سوچ وارا شخص گھڻو ڪامياب ويا
آهن پر سيتل سان او نيم لاڳو نہ آهي، اهو ڏسي لڳي
ٿو تہ چوڻو ٻوي ٿو تہ ”زندگي مين بهوت جسني سوچا
هئہ، وهي زندگي پي رويا هئہ.“ اڪثر ڏسندا تہ سيتل
سدائين هڪ ئي موڊ، يوگہ مدرا ۾ رهي ٿو. ائين نہ
آهي تہ ڪو هن ٻائي جي زندگيءَ ۾ گرم هوا ۽ طوفان
آيا ئي ڪونهن. جيڏا اٺ وڏا، تيڏا لوڏا بہ وڏا، اهو
تہ دستور دنيا اندر هلي پيو. لڳاتار ٽي دفعا اسيمبليءَ

شخص وڏو ودوان ڪونهي، گهٽو تعليم يافت به
ڪونهي، مشڪل سان .B.A تائين سکيا حاصل ڪيل آهي.
ايترو ذهني به ڪونهي، ڪنهن به وشيه يا حساب ۾
ماهر ڪونهي. هن وٽ ويچارن جي گهرائي ۽ اونهائي
ڪونهي. هن پوري طرح گيتا ۽ ڪنهن گرنٿ جو اڀياس
ڪيو ڪونهي. ڪنهن سنت مهاتما جو مريد پڻ ڪونهي.
هن جديد دنيا جي تيزي ۽ بدلاءَ کي به گهٽ سمجهيو
آهي، نه ته دنيا جي اتهاس ۽ جاگرافي جي گهٽي ڄاڻ
اٿس. ڪارل مارڪس جي فيلسوفي کان به شايد واقف
هجي. نه ابراهيم لنڪن جي لوڪشاهي متي جي ٻوجهه
اٿس، نه وري دنيا جي ڪنهن وڏي انقلاب فرينچ
ريوووليشن (French Revolution) جي نتيجن جي خبر اٿس.
مان نٿو سمجهان ته هن صاحب کي اڄ جي دنيا ۾
هلندڙ ''گاڊ فادر'' سسٽم جي ڪا پروڙ اٿس. ڏسو
دوستو، ايترو ڪجهه هوندي به هن شخص جي اندر ۾
قدرتي ڪا اهڙي سوجهه ٻوجهه آهي جو جنهن به ڪاريه
۾ هٿ وڌو اٿائين، انهيءَ ۾ بلڪل سڦل ويو آهي ۽
پوري طرح سڦل ويو آهي. هن پنهنجي نوجيون ٻئنڪن
کي جهڙي نموني ماڊرن سسٽم سان رکيو آهي ته ائين
ڳندو آهي، ڄڻ سينٽل جو جنم آمريڪا جي ڪنهن
شهر ۾ ٿيو آهي، چنتامڻي ديشمکه جيان ارٿ شاستر ۾

انسان پيدا ٿيا آهن. انهن ٿورن هستين مان هڪ سيتل هرچنداڻي آهي، هڪ صاحب صورت، سيرت ۽ لياقت ۾ هڪ انسان، بلڪ فرشتي مثل لڳندو آهي ... در حقيقت ۾ هي انسان ديوتا ۽ يگه پرش ثابت ٿيو آهي.

ديرينو، سدا نوبنو، شانت چت، صبر ۽ شڪرمند انسان آهي. سيتل جيڪو پنهنجي ڪرم ڪاريه ۽ سيوا سبب نهال ۽ ڪمال بڻجي ويو آهي، اهو عام جو عقيدو آهي، ها، مگر هي شخص ڪو بن ڪمائي نانڪا ڪونه بڻيو آهي، وڏي جاکوڙ، تياڳه ۽ سيوا پئي ڪئي اٿائين ۽ ڪندو پڻ رهي ٿو، تڏهن اهڙي پدوي تي هڪ انسان بڻجي پهتو آهي. سيتل نه چئي کيس گل ڪمل جو چئون ته به جيڪر سندس مٽيا ۽ مشابت برابر بيهندي !

دوستو، آءُ سيتل جي اجائي ساراهه ڪونه ٿو ڪريان، منهنجي دل اهو سڀ ڪجهه چئي رهي آهي ۽ هڪ ليکڪ جو قلم اهو ازخود احوال ڏيئي رهيو آهي. جيڪي شخص هن صاحب جي ويجهو آيا آهن جيترو نزديڪ آيا آهن اوترو انهن سيتل کي ڀانئيو آهي ۽ پنهنجو سمجهيو آهي ۽ ڀلو شخص سمجهيو آهي.

”مون کي ۽ ڪيترن ٻين معتبرن کي لڳو آهي ته ”سيتل، اعليٰ شخصيت جو مالڪ آهي.“ حالانڪ هي

انهيءَ لاءِ وڏي توفيق رمز ۽ ڪلا گهرجي، ورلو ڪو ماڻهو جڏهن above Self واري منزل تي پهچي ٿو. پنهنجي اجائي اهم، بيحد خوديءَ کان ٻاهر نڪري عام جي ڀلائي ۽ سيوا لاءِ سنيري نڪري پوي ٿو ۽ ٻين جي ڪشٽن کي پنهنجو سمجهي ٿو، جنتا ۾ جناردن ڏسي ٿو ۽ پوءِ اهڙو ماڻهو ڄڻ سپيءَ منجهان موتيءَ مثل ٻٽجي نڪري ٿو، نيڪ اهڙي راهه سيتل سمجهي ۽ ڄاتي آهي. هي اسان جو شهر سنڌونگر عام خلق سان ڀريل، سنڌين جي هڪ وڏي بستي آهي. بس ماڻهو ئي ماڻهو آهن، هٽ، هن شهر ۾ ڀي دکه گهڻا آهن، مسئلا گهڻا آهن. در حقيقت شهر الهاسنگر جو رنگ ڍنگ ڪجهه اور آهي. پنهنجا پنهنجا هٽ دک سک پڻ آهن. هتي موج مزا ڀي آهن. سنڌونگر سنڌ جو ڄڻ هڪ حصو ۽ نماءُ مثل آهي. هتي گهڻا ئي ليڊر اڳوان آهن، ڪئي سنت ساڌو مهاتما موجود آهن، مندر مڙهيون، ڏيرا ۽ اُڏيري لعل جا ميلا ملاکڙا ڀي گهڻا هلن ٿا. پر ڏسنداسين ته وکست جيون هٽ گهٽ آهي. شهر ۾ واپار وڏو هلي ٿو. غريبيءَ ۽ شاهوڪاري پڻ گهٽي آهن.

سنڌونگر ۾ هن مهل تائين ڪيتريون شاندار هستيون پيدا ٿيون آهن. مگر ماڻهوءَ مان آڱرين تي ڳڻڻ جيترا

☆ سيتل جو سڀاوَ ۽ سياسي وهنوار

”تتيءَ ٿڌيءَ ڪاهہ ناهي ويل ويهڻ جي“

سنڌ جي سرتاج شاعر شاهہ صاحب جو اهو ڪلام
سيتل اُچاريو ۽ دل ۾ آڻي هنڊائي بجاءِ پڻ آندو آهي

هي سنسار جڙ، چيتن ۽ پراڻين سان ڀرپور آهي
پراڻين ۾ ماڻهو، سڀني جيون کان مٿيرو آهي، ڇو تہ
ماڻهو وٽ من، بڌي ۽ جذبات آهي. ماڻهو قدرت جي
جڙ ۽ پدارٿن جو چڱو اپيوگ ڪيو آهي. سنسار جي
ڪيترن پراڻين کي وس رکيو آهي، مگر انهيءَ هوندي
بہ ماڻهو جمڻ کان وٺي خوشيءَ جي تلاش ۾ جيئي
رهيو آهي ۽ منزل اڃا دور آهي، ڇو تہ ماڻهو دکن ۽
خوشين جي وچ ۾ فوٽ بال جيان جيئي رهيو آهي، اهو
سڀ انهيءَ ڪري جو ماڻهو اڃا پوري طرح انسان ئي
ڪونہ بڻيو آهي. دنيا ماڻهن سان ڀري پيئي آهي.
آدم وجي ٿو وڌندو، مگر ڪي ڪي ماڻهو بدلجي انسان
بڻجي پون ٿا.

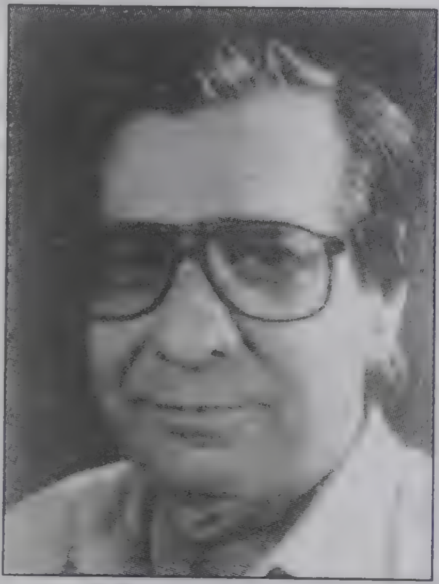
جيئن ڪنهن گمنام شاعر فرمايو آهي.

”هئہ فرشتي سي بهتر، انسان بننا،
مگر اس ۾ لگتي هئہ محنت زياده.“

سو جڳت ۾ انسان بڻجي جيئڻ ڏاڍو ڏکيو آهي.

سيتل جو دؤر سونهري هو .....

✍ هندوجا نند 'آنند'



سيتل جي زندگيءَ جو ڪتاب ڪليل آهي، پر پوءِ بہ سيتل خود هڪ سوال مثل آهي، سنڌنگر اندر هن چاليهن سالن جي سياسي جيون ۾ چست رهندي، انيڪ مسئلا حل ڪيا آهن. شهر جي ڪيترن سوالن کي ڪنيو اٿائين. هن مهل تائين الهاسنگر ۾، ڪنهن بہ شخص يا ڪنهن گڏيل عام سنستا بہ ايترا مسئلا حل ڪونہ ڪيا آهن. عام جي ڀلائي خدمت ڪونہ ڪئي آهي، جيتري سيوا سيتل سرگرميءَ سان ڪئي آهي. هن جو جيون آندولن، ايندڙ پيڙهين لاءِ پريرڻا گائيڊ لائين رهندو، جنهنڪري سيتل جي جيون ڪاريہ کي ڪتاب جي ورقن ۾ آڻي، سنڌين لاءِ ۽ سنڌونگرواسين لاءِ روشنيءَ جي ڌارا ڏيون ٿا، اها روشنيءَ جي جهلڪ، شل اڳتي هلي سنڌونگر کي هڪ خوبصورت بستي بڻائي. اهڙي خواهش دل ۽ دماغ ۾ آهي. اچو تہ سيتل جي سرهاڻ جي مهڪ وٺون.

سلسلو	رايو ڏيندڙ ليکڪ	پيج نمبر
1) سيتل جو دؤر سونهري هو	هندوجا نند ’آنند‘	1
2) هردل عزيز انسان	ڊاڪٽر ديال آشا	24
3) سنڌونگر جي سونهن سيتل	ڊاڪٽر نارايڻ ڀارتي	27
4) ملاقات (انٽرويو)	سريچند گرناڻي	32
5) مسڪينن جو مسيحا	سريچند صابلاڻي	42
6) شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي	ڊاڪٽر ارجن سڪايل	47
7) سياءُ جو سادو ۽ سيتل	نيوند ڊي. واڌواڻي	49
8) هڪ اعليٰ شخصيت	دادا ڀارتي راجا	53
9) هڪ جنوني شخصيت	سندر ڊنگواڻي	56
10) انسان دوست	آسودومل موهناڻي	61
11) سنڌي جاتيءَ جو شان	ناري گرسهاڻي	63
12) سدا سيوا ۾ لڳل - سيتل	ڪرتار دلواڻي	65
13) سهڻي صورت ۽ موهڻي مورت	بينا امرناڻي	68
14) سيتل يارن جو يارُ	موتيرام هيراننداڻي	70
15) سيتل جي اڳواڻي لاثاني رهي	ايسر ڀارواڻي	72
16) سيتل هرچنداڻي هڪ سڦل شخص	ٽيڪچند ميرپوري	74
17) سيتل لوڪ پريه نيتا	نارائڻ آڏواڻي	77
18) سچ جو پلو چاهيان ٿو	سيتل هرچنداڻي	80

سرهاڻ سيتل جي

(شري سيتلداس هرچنداڻي جي سڦل جيون ڪاريه جي جهلڪ)

از : هندوجا نند ”آنند“

سهڪار ۽ ساٿ ڏيندڙ :

* ڊاڪٽر نارايڻ ڀارتي

* گهنشام ڀاٽيه

* ارجن ٻالاڻي

* ڀاڳو تلريجا

* هوندراج ڀاٽيه

پبلشر : سدآنند پبليڪيشن
404، نالندا پئليس، اُلهاسنگر.
فون : 562129. 542203

Shri Sitaldasji Khubchand Harchandani Born on 22nd December 1933 affecionately called as *DADA is endowed with an* excellent - Social - Culture, Political, Educational and Banking background.

He has been acclaimed as a great Social and Political Leader. He is an eminent personality to be reckoned with. Through his sincere and dedicated endeavours Shri Sitaldas has created a niche for himself in the minds of the entire Ulhasnagar Public.

As a result of honesty of purpose, hardwork and sincerity he has been elected 3 times *M.L.A* continuosly in a row. Due to his service he has endeared himself in the Political, Social, Educational as well as in the Banking fields as a great personality to be relied upon.

In recognition and admiration of his continuous contributions to society in general and Sindhis in particular with genuine zeal and love for the last 45 years, we present here this small tribute to the *MAN* on his seventieth Birthday.